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THE TRAGEDY IN GREECE.

A STRINGENT Peace Preservation Bill, and an honest and energetic Executive to enforce its provisions, are sadly wanted in Greece. Had these things existed in the realm which King George and his Ministers are supposed to govern, the atrocious crime that has saddened the hearts and excited the anger of all Englishmen could not have occurred. In Greece, however, law seems to exist only in name; and the protection to person and property it ought to afford, not at all. People cannot venture a couple of hours' journey from the capital without being exposed to outrage—and that, too, even though assured by the authorities that it is perfectly safe to do so. Their persons may be seized by brigands—professional robbers and cut-throats, whose existence appears to be a recognised institution of the country; they may be held to exorbitant ransom; they may even, like our unhappy countrymen, be butchered at the caprice, or to gratify the vengeance and bloodthirstiness, of their savage captors. And all this in a land that makes high pretensions to civilisation; whose monuments are the most noble and its scenes the most attractive in Europe; and whose people, moreover, especially affect the character of patriots—lovers of their country. The Greeks are exceedingly anxious to extend their borders; they wish to annex Thessaly, Epirus, Crete, and other regions still subject to the Porte. But we suspect that they will have to show themselves better able to govern the land they have, ere they can hope to secure much sympathy with their desire for extended dominion. The rule of the Turk in the districts coveted may be faulty, but it would be a libel to compare it to that of the Greek. There was a time, when Turkish Pachas and Agas ruled in Greece, in

which men could visit the memorable scenes of that once heroic and classic land in comparative safety; but that time has passed away since the advent of Greek independence and so-called Hellenic liberty. The civilisation of the Christian Greek is evidently infinitely more savage than the barbarity of the benighted Moslem. How long is the existing disgraceful state of affairs to continue? Is the land whose memories are a sort

of common inheritance of the civilised world, always to remain the prey of thieves, robbers, murderers, and their abettors in high places?

The Greek Ministers are clearly responsible for the murder of the four gentlemen who perished at the brigands' hands. They first lured the victims to their fate by assurances that the road to the field of Marathon was perfectly safe, and that brigandage was extinct in Attica—assurances which they

either knew or ought to have known to be unfounded. If they were aware that the road was dangerous, they should have hindered the departure of the intended excursionists, or at least have given a stronger escort; if they did not know that brigands were abroad, they grossly neglected the duty incumbent upon them as guardians of the peace. Then, after having tempted Lord Muncaster and his party to their fate, the Ministers promised that no pressure should be put upon the brigands till their captives were released; and they broke that promise, suddenly became spasmodically active, dispatched soldiers in pursuit (though earnestly urged to forbear), and thus led up to the catastrophe we all lament. They refused the amnesty demanded by the brigands on the plea of respect for the Constitution and the law, though they have tolerated violations of both in hundreds of like cases before. They and their predecessors were supine and unscrupulous about violations of the Constitution and the law when vigorous action was needed and might have been useful; and they suddenly became scrupulous and active when scruples and action were fatal. At their door, therefore, lies the responsibility for these atrocious murders; and we trust that neither the British nor the Italian Government will fail to hold them guilty.

We regret that it should be necessary



"WHAT SHALL BE MY SONG TO-NIGHT?"—(PICTURE BY MRS. CHATTERIS, IN THE FEMALE ARTISTS' EXHIBITION.)

to apply external pressure to the Government of Greece in this matter; but we cannot pretend to feeling much sympathy for the persons whose maladministration has produced the necessity, nor, indeed, for the people who have tolerated, if they have not caused, that maladministration. But as a long-festering sore has now broken out in a most virulent form in Greece, so as to affect not her own people merely, but other nations also, she must be called upon to purge herself of the unclean thing, or at once hoist the black flag, and declare the country a moral pest-house and its inhabitants a race of pirates, without the comity of nations, and to be avoided of all men. The task of extirpating brigandage in Greece may possibly be more onerous than we in England suppose. We are willing to make allowance for that, for we know by experience how difficult it is to suppress agrarian crime in Ireland and to prevent outrages on person and property everywhere. But what we insist upon is that a real, earnest, vigorous, and persistent effort shall be made by the Greek authorities; and if that be done, which has never been done heretofore, we doubt not that ultimate success may be achieved.

It is not for us to prescribe what course the Governments of Great Britain and Italy will take to obtain reparation for the murder of their citizens and servants. We may leave that to the responsible Ministers of each country; but clearly some reparation other than a mere pecuniary indemnity is called for; and what better reparation could be offered, now that the lives of the victims are sacrificed beyond recall, than an effectual guarantee that such an event can never happen in Greece again—that is, that brigands and brigandage shall be at once and for ever extirpated there? When peaceful travellers can be seized almost within sight of the Acropolis; when their lives can be sacrificed without let or hindrance; when even the persons of diplomatic agents, who in a manner represent and enjoy the immunity of the sacred heralds of old, are not respected, it is time for strong measures to be adopted to compel the Greek Government to do its duty, if King George's Ministers do not feel the propriety of bestirring themselves to wipe away the odium that now attaches to their country and their administration—or, rather, non-administration—of their country's laws. We do not admire strong nations when they use their strength to bully and coerce weak ones; but feeble nations must not make their weakness an excuse for doing wrong or omitting to do right. The Government of King George has an army at its disposal, which, if it be good for any purpose whatever, ought to be made available for ridding the country of the curse of brigandage; and if the Greeks do not take the initiative in this work themselves, means ought—and surely may—be found for making them do so. This is the task that falls to Lord Clarendon and the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs; and we hope they will address themselves to its performance with as much vigour and promptitude as they have hitherto displayed in this unhappy affair. May their efforts be crowned with a larger measure of success!

It is reported by telegraph that the Greek Minister of War, General Soutzo, has resigned; from which circumstance we may infer either that he takes blame to himself or that he is to be made a scapegoat for his colleagues. But the aggrieved Powers must not be content with the sacrifice, apparent or real, of one official; nothing short of the most vigorous action for the extirpation of brigandage in every corner of Greece, as well as the condign punishment of the particular malefactors concerned, must content them. If the statement of Hobart Pacha, quoted in another column, be correct—and there is no reason to doubt it—the Greek Government has itself been instrumental in the manufacture of brigands, and should be called upon, in no faltering tone, to rectify the mischief it has done. The authorities in Greece must set about recapturing its gaoi-birds, and bind itself never again, for any purpose whatever, to let loose its cut-throats upon the world.

"WHAT SHALL BE MY SONG TO-NIGHT?"

Is our notice of the exhibition of paintings by the Society of Female Artists—an institution which is not yet appreciated so fully as its merits deserve—we spoke of the large number of admirably-drawn and delicately-executed figure-subjects in that quiet style which, dealing with scenes and objects of every-day life, are sure to secure the popular suffrages. Among them, the picture from which our Engraving is taken holds a prominent place, and Mrs. Chatteris has devoted to it that fine handling and beauty of colour which distinguish her work. Somehow the harp has to a great extent gone out of fashion, and it is a great pity that it should be so, since, even taking the accomplishment on its very lowest ground, a performance on that instrument was admirably adapted to show off a fine arm, to display to advantage a beautifully-formed hand, a rounded shoulder, and a supple waist. Nowadays, all these beauties are despised by their possessors, who seek to acquire the artful fascination of the Grecian bend and the Alexandra limp; and the last new music-hall song vamped up for performance on the piano is all that is required in the way of musical skill in the society which regards "Formosa" and "Chilpéric" as the representative dramatic works of the time. However, the lady represented by Mrs. Chatteris is a silent rebuke to this degradation; and the beautiful unconscious grace with which she prepares to solace her lonely hour or to charm the social circle with her simple music is attractive in a picture, seldom as we may meet with its original in actual life.

A JAPANESE LOAN.—The Japanese Government has appeared in the London money market as a borrower. A loan of £1,000,000, contracted under the authority of Mr. Lay, as special Commissioner for the Imperial Government of Japan, is introduced by Messrs. J. Henry Schröder and Co. The price is to be 98, and the rate of interest 9 per cent per annum, the principal redeemable at par within thirteen years by annual drawings. The object is to connect by railway Jeddo, the capital of the empire, with Yokohama, Osaka, and the port of Tsu-ruga—points which comprise several millions of inhabitants and the most active trading communities of the country. As a special security the entire customs duties of the empire, said to amount to £600,000 or £700,000 per annum, are to be assigned, together with the proceeds of the intended lines, which are all to be completed within three or five years; and the Oriental Bank Corporation, who have had long experience of pecuniary intercourse with the Japanese Government and people, are to be the agents for the receipt and transmission of the funds.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

In the French papers the plebiscite is the one subject of discussion, all other topics being completely forced into the background by it. The *Temps* says that the general impression is in the highest degree unfavourable, nothing being heard on all sides but disapprobation and bitter criticism of this act of personal power. Public meetings to discuss the plebiscite are now being held nightly in Paris. Very strong language has been used at some of them, accompanied by shouts of "Vive la République!" and "Vive Rochefort!" No disturbances, however, are reported, and the police have not thought it necessary to interfere. The Government has decided that the electors are not to be required to deliver up their cards to the bureaux when giving their votes at the plebiscite.

The strike of the founders and moulders continues, and it is expected that the mechanicians will join them, while the stokers and drivers on the railways and the omnibus drivers also demand an increase of wages. A certain number of sugar refiners on strike created a disturbance on Tuesday evening, and had to be dispersed by the police.

SPAIN.

The *Imparcial* of Wednesday positively contradicts an assertion of the *Epoca* that negotiations had been opened with Prince Frederick of Prussia, with the view of bringing his Royal Highness forward as a candidate for the Spanish Throne. The *Imparcial* adds that up to the present nothing has been settled. The necessity for terminating the present provisional state of things is universally admitted, but the impossibility of electing a King at present is equally recognised. On Tuesday General Prim and the Regent held two long conferences. At a meeting of thirty Esparterist deputies a resolution has been adopted to propose Espartero to the Cortes, if the partisans of the Duke de Montpensier should make any movement in favour of their candidate.

Some Carlist chiefs have been arrested at Perpignan, when leaving for the Spanish frontier, and will be reconducted to the interior of France, probably to Bourges.

The Pope maintains his instructions issued in September, 1869, to the clergy relative to the formula of the oath, and authorises the clergy to take the oath when the Government has declared the Constitution contains nothing either against the laws of God or the Church, as in 1845.

ROME.

The third public session of the Oecumenical Council was held on Sunday, and the Constitution *de Fide* was voted unanimously.

The Foreign Ministers in Rome have received instructions from their respective Governments verbally to support the representations made in the French note immediately after its delivery to the Roman Government and the Council. The Ministers now appear decided before presenting any observations to await explanations on the point whether the delivery of the French note last Saturday is to be considered an official communication.

PRUSSIA.

An important religious secession has taken place at Bromberg, in consequence of the arbitrary measures of the Minister of Education and Religion, Herr von Muhler. Herr Czersky, the dissenting minister of one of the villages in the district, has lately made a tour in the surrounding parishes, and his sermons against the authorities have produced such an effect on the population that the majority of them have signed an address to the judicial authorities of Bromberg informing them of their intention to abandon the Evangelical Church.

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

Violent excesses were committed against the Jews in the town of Tekuch last Sunday. Their houses were pillaged and their synagogues violated. The disturbances were renewed on Monday evening, and troops have been dispatched from Bucharest to restore order.

TURKEY.

The Porte sent, on Saturday last, to London and Paris the following despatch:—"Djemil Pacha will make to M. Ollivier, and Musurus Pacha to Lord Clarendon, a formal protest against the issue of the new Egyptian Loan, reserving all our rights and repudiating future responsibility for this operation."

A contract for the construction of a telegraph line between Constantinople and Odessa was signed, on the 15th inst., between Daoud Pacha and M. Dominique Gallotti.

THE UNITED STATES.

In Richmond, Virginia, on Tuesday, the Court of Appeal in the State capital building was trying the case of the rival Mayors of Richmond, when, the room being crowded, the floor gave way, precipitating the people upon the House of Representatives below. Two hundred persons were killed or injured, forty being killed on the spot. Governor Walker was in court, but he escaped unhurt. Twenty members of the Legislature have been killed or injured.

In the Senate Mr. Chandler has brought forward a resolution authorising the President to annex the Winnipeg district in settlement of the Alabama claims. The motion has been referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

In the Senate, on the 14th inst., a bill was introduced by Mr. Sumner to incorporate the Pacific Submarine Telegraph Company and facilitate telegraphic communication between America and Asia. On the same day a similar bill was introduced in the House of Representatives, together with a memorial from Mr. Cyrus W. Field asking for assistance to carry out the project. The memorial sets forth that Mr. Field, having been engaged in the successful establishment of inter-oceanic telegraph communication across the Atlantic, is now desirous of undertaking a similar enterprise between America and Asia. The proposed line will supply the only link required to complete a circle of telegraphic communication round the world. The total length of the cable will be about 8500 miles. Mr. Field asks Congress to incorporate a company, with a capital of 10,000,000 dols., for carrying out his scheme. The matter has been referred to a committee.

It is reported that the Sioux Indians are resuming hostilities, and that there are 20,000 of them on the war-path. The Government is sending troops to the west to meet the emergency.

HAYTI.

It is stated that Baez has been defeated in two engagements in San Domingo by the insurgents under the command of Cabral, who is marching upon Azua.

CANADA.

The Habeas Corpus Act was suspended in Canada on the 14th inst. The measure passed both Houses and received the assent of the Governor-General during the afternoon. Sir John A. Macdonald, in asking Parliament to suspend the Act, said that the Government had received information on which it relied that the country was again in danger from the United States Fenians, and that preparations for invasion had been going on all last autumn and winter. It had at first been the policy of the organisation to parade its proportions, and cause excitement by means of the press. Now it had adopted a different course, and carried out its arrangements in silence. He would not place the information the Government had received before the House, as that might be dangerous to the persons who had given it; but the news came from so many sources, official and unofficial, that the Ministry had not the shadow of a doubt it was the intention of the Fenians to make an attack without delay. Sir John Macdonald further said that the brotherhood was more active now than it had been for a long time, and he believed its attempts against Canada would continue for years.

A second meeting has been held in Toronto to express indignation at the execution of Scott, at Fort Garry, and at the inaction

of the Canadian Government in the Red River dispute. The meeting is said to have been the largest held in the city for a long time, and no fewer than 6000 or 7000 persons were present. Strongly-worded resolutions urging the Dominion Government to take action against the Red River insurgents, and to refuse to receive their delegates, were carried with much enthusiasm. At the conclusion of the proceedings three cheers were given for the Queen and three for Canada. Three groans were then given for "any Government that would receive the murderers of Scott." After this three more cheers were given for the Queen, and the assemblage dispersed.

THE PLEBISCITE IN FRANCE.

LAST Saturday's *Journal Officiel* of Paris publishes an Imperial decree by which the French people are called upon to assemble on May 8 and accept or reject the following plebiscite:—"The people approves the liberal reforms effected in the Constitution since 1860 by the Emperor, with the co-operation of the grant bodies of the State, and ratifies the Senatus Consultum of April 20, 1870." The voting will last from six o'clock in the morning till six in the evening. The Prefects may, however, if requested, fix the time for the commencement of the proceedings at five o'clock in the morning. The voting will be by ballot, with printed or written bulletins, bearing the words "Yes" or "No." The Emperor has addressed the following proclamation to the nation:—

"The Constitution of 1852, drawn up by virtue of the power you intrusted to me, and ratified by the eight millions of votes which established the Empire, has given to France eighteen years of calm and prosperity, not unattended with glory. This Constitution has secured order, and has at the same time left a way open for every improvement. And, indeed, the more security has been consolidated the larger has been the share accorded to liberty. But successive changes have altered the bases of the plebiscite, which could not be modified without a fresh appeal to the nation. It became therefore, indispensable that the new Constitutional Pact should be approved by the people, as were formerly the Constitutions of the Republic and of the Empire. In those two epochs the belief was, as is my own belief at the present time, that everything done without you is illegitimate. The Constitution of France, Imperial and Democratic, when confined to a limited number of fundamental regulations which cannot be changed without your assent, will have the advantage of rendering definitive the progress that has been accomplished, and of shielding the principle of Government from political fluctuations. Time, too often lost in fruitless and passionate controversies, may henceforth be more advantageously employed in seeking the means of increasing the moral and material well-being of the greatest number. I speak to all of you who since Dec. 10, 1848, have surmounted every obstacle in order to place me at your head; to you who for twenty-two years have incessantly added to my greatness by your votes, supported me by your co-operation, and rewarded me by your affection. Give me another proof of your confidence. By balloting affirmatively you will conjure down the threats of revolution, you will send order and liberty on a solid basis, and you will render easier for the future the transmission of the crown to my son. Eighteen years ago you were almost unanimous in conferring the most extensive powers upon me. Be now, too, as numerous in giving your adhesion to the transformation of the Imperial régime. A great nation cannot attain to its complete development without leaning for support upon institutions which are a guarantee both for stability and progress. To the request which I address to you to ratify the liberal reforms that have been realised during the last ten years answer 'Yes!' As to myself, faithful to my origin, I shall imbue myself with your thoughts, fortify myself in your will, and, trusting to Providence, I shall not cease to labour without intermission for the prosperity and greatness of France."

"April 4, 1870."

"NAPOLEON."

The subjoined Ministerial circular has been addressed to the public functionaries throughout the empire:—

"Gentlemen,—The Emperor has addressed a solemn appeal to the nation. In 1852 he asked for power to preserve order; and, order having been assured, in 1870 he asks for power to establish liberty. Trusting in the right which he holds by the suffrages of eight millions of people, he does not propose that the empire should be dissolved, but he only submits his liberal transformations to the vote. To vote in the affirmative is to vote for liberty. The Revolutionary party describes as an attempt against the national sovereignty the homage which the Emperor pays to the national sovereignty in consulting the people, and it counsels that negative votes should be given. True friends of liberty, despite small differences of opinion, will advance with us. Can they ignore that abstention or dissentient votes would be but to strengthen those who oppose the transformation of the empire, in order, with it, to destroy the political and social organisation to which France owes her greatness? In the name of public peace and liberty, in the name of the Emperor, we demand of you, our fellow-workers, to join your efforts with ours. We address you as citizens; we do not send to you an order, but a patriotic counsel that will assure to our country a tranquil future, in order that on the throne, as in the most humble dwelling, the son may in peace succeed his father." The circular is signed by all the Ministers.

M. Ollivier has addressed a letter to his constituents urging them to vote for the plebiscite, and to pay no heed to those who advise them to vote against it. Were the latter to triumph, he says, they would imprison or exile their opponents, and establish a social republic, of which the nation would soon grow weary. On the other hand, if the friends of the empire triumph, long days of safety, of confidence, and of repose will be secured to the country, the Emperor and his Ministers will be able to occupy themselves more than ever with the public welfare, and civil war need no longer be feared.

CONVENTUAL INSTITUTIONS.—The number of nuns in Great Britain has been stated by Mr. Newdegate and others to amount to 6000. This is an exaggeration, and a very considerable one. The number of convents in England amounts to 216, and in Scotland to 17—total, 233; and the total number of professed nuns and lay sisters (not including novices) amounts to rather more than 2500, or less than half the number stated by those who are arguing in favour of a Parliamentary Committee of Inquiry. We suspect that in the very liberal statement of 6000 nuns Mr. Newdegate has included not only the novices who are in the various convents to try their vocation, but also the young ladies, and even the poor school girls, who are in some of the religious houses for education. But these, even if we include the unfortunate women who are being reclaimed in some of our convents, would not make the number up to 6000. Of the 216 convents in England there are not more than twenty that belong to cloistered orders; and amongst the seventeen religious houses in Scotland there is only one convent that is cloistered.—*Weekly Register*.—On Sunday, at St. George's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Southwark, and at most of the metropolitan Roman Catholic churches, the congregations were invited to pray, during the ensuing week, "that the threatened act of injustice and insult levelled at the Roman Catholic religious communities, through the proposed inspection of conventual and monastic institutions, may be averted."

MULBERRY-LEAVES.—The Science and Art Department of the South Kensington Museum has placed at the disposal of the Silk Supply Association a room for the purpose of rearing silkworms during the ensuing months of May and June. The association, being possessed of some very rare and valuable eggs, or "grain," imported by the hon. secretary from Siberia, Manchuria, Szechuen, Shang-Tung, and other places where there exists no disease, will be able to demonstrate, for the information of agriculturists in this country and in the colonies, the simple practicability of silk production. The subject is one of national interest, and it is hoped, will stimulate our colonies to turn their attention to silk cultivation. Persons interested in silk culture at home or in the colonies may have the opportunity of studying the entire process by application to the hon. secretary. It being of much importance to obtain early regular supplies of proper food for the worms, the association would be obliged to gentlemen having mulberry-trees who will occasionally favour them with small quantities of leaves. It is desirable that the first supplies should arrive as early in May as possible. The hon. secretary, Mr. B. Francis Cobb, will gladly arrange for periodical receipts of leaves with gentlemen who may be willing to promote this national object if they will kindly communicate with him at the offices of the association, 65, Moorgate-street.

THE GREEK BRIGANDS AND THEIR VICTIMS.

The following statement of the circumstances under which the party of English travellers fell into the hands of brigands, between Marathon and Athens, is mainly derived from a letter written by Lord Muncaster:—

"On Saturday, April 9, Lord Muncaster, who, with Lady Muncaster and a friend, Mr. Frederick Vyner, a younger brother of Lady De Grey and Ripon, was travelling in the East, applied, through the British Legation at Athens, for information as to the safety of visiting the plains of Marathon, and if an escort was necessary and could be furnished to enable them to do so.

"The reply was to the effect that the road was safe; that there were no brigands in Attica, but that an escort would be provided. Accordingly, on Monday, April 11, at 6.30 a.m., the party, consisting of Lord and Lady Muncaster, Mr. Frederick Vyner, Mr. Herbert (one of the secretaries to her Majesty's Legation), Count de Boyl (secretary to the Italian Legation), and Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd, with their young child, five years of age, left Athens in two carriages, under the escort of four mounted gendarmes, for Marathon, accompanied by a Suliot named Alexandros, the most experienced and intelligent dragoman in Greece.

"On traversing the plain, they found a small detachment of six infantry soldiers, and afterwards a larger one of twenty-five, apparently patrolling the road. After exploring the scene of one of the most interesting events of history, they started to return to Athens. The detachment of twenty-five men appears to have endeavoured to keep company with them, but was unable to do so, and they again passed the smaller party of six men, who succeeded in keeping tolerably close in the rear.

"At 4.30 p.m., entering a thickly-wooded part of the road near the bridge of Pikermes, two mounted gendarmes riding one on each side of the carriages and two in front, a volley was suddenly fired into them, killing one of the gendarmes and mortally wounding another. The road was immediately filled with brigands, who forced the occupants out of the carriages, using much violence, striking, though not severely, Lady Muncaster, and tearing off her watch and locket, and menacing with knives the lives of all. They hurried their captives up the side of Mount Pentelicus, but had scarcely got fifty yards from the road when the six infantry soldiers came up and at once commenced firing into the brigands, who returned the fire.

"The soldiers, finding themselves overmatched (the brigands being upwards of twenty in number), happily discontinued the engagement, which would have been probably fatal to the captives, who were collected in a body in their midst.

"The brigands then hurried their prisoners up the slopes of Pentelicus; and, after two hours' walking, they put the ladies on the horses of the dismounted gendarmes, and, with one servant, let them go to Athens.

"After the ladies had gone, the five gentlemen and Alexandros were compelled to walk with their captors up and down wooded ravines, sometimes resting for half an hour, till about two a.m. on Tuesday, April 12, when they stopped in a dry watercourse to kill and roast three lambs, making their captives sit round the fire, and pressing upon them the insides of the animals. Weariness and depression of spirits had deprived them of appetite, even if the food had been more attractive; and they partook of nothing except some black bread and water, which was all the nourishment they had for upwards of forty-eight (?) hours.

"Resuming their march, they halted again about daybreak, and all Tuesday lay under some bushes; luckily it was fine, so they did not suffer much. During that day they consulted as to what was to be done, and it was agreed to ask for one of their number to be allowed to go to Athens to arrange for payment of the ransom demanded, and also for an amnesty. After several hours' talk between Alexandros and the captain of the band the terms of ransom were settled so far as that the captain of the brigands reduced the enormous sum demanded, of £50,000, to the still enormous and extravagant sum of £25,000. He would not, however, suffer any further discussion, but, growing impatient, said emphatically, 'Finish quickly.' The captives then arranged that Lord Muncaster should be the person to go in and make the arrangements necessary for his own and his companions' release—a promise being exacted by the brigands that, failing in his mission, he was to return, and that the lives of the others depended on his success. They promised to let Lord Muncaster go that night, but did not do so, as they could get no guide, and none of the brigands dared to be seen with one of their captives.

"On Tuesday, throughout the night, they walked over boggy plains, and up and down hills, wet through from heavy rain, in which they lay down for three hours, till six in the morning, when they started again, and then stopped for the day in a ravine, where a shepherd was found and a small cart obtained in which Lord Muncaster proceeded to Athens.

"He, of course, made immediate arrangements for sending food and clothing to his unfortunate friends, and for obtaining the money, which was promptly and generously placed at his disposal by a merchant in Athens. The only difficulty lay in the transport of so large a sum in gold."

Subsequent intelligence is to the effect that the three Englishmen—Mr. Vyner, Mr. Herbert, and Mr. Lloyd—and the Italian Secretary of Legation were all murdered on Thursday night or Friday morning week. The Greek Government had been only too zealous in its attempt to rescue the prisoners, and thus to free the country from the disgrace of their capture within a few hours' journey of the capital. The brigands, closely pursued and hard pressed by the troops, determined that if they did not receive the expected ransom their unhappy prisoners should pay the penalty. The telegraph reports that the travellers were thus murdered in cold blood, Mr. Herbert and Count Boyl being first killed, and Mr. Vyner and Mr. Lloyd sharing the same fate afterwards.

Some slight consolation is afforded to the relatives and friends of the victims of Greek ferocity by the knowledge that their bodies have been recovered and conveyed to Athens, and every mark of respect paid to them. The funeral of Mr. Lloyd took place last Saturday; the King himself attended on foot, and an immense crowd of sympathisers followed the hearse. The body of Mr. Vyner, in accordance with his last wishes, will be embalmed and brought to England, as will that of Mr. Herbert. The funeral of Count de Boyl took place on Monday, the King, the Diplomatic Corps, and the Ministry, being present at the ceremony.

General Soutzo, the Greek Minister of War, has resigned, and his post has been assumed *ad interim* by the Minister of the Interior.

Official correspondence respecting the massacre was presented to both Houses of Parliament on Tuesday. It consists of the despatches exchanged between Lord Clarendon and Mr. Erskine, the British Minister at Athens, and gives an account of the negotiations which took place in order to obtain the release of the captives. Mr. Erskine says that, in an interview he had with the King, his Majesty showed the most eager desire to go and place himself in the hands of the brigands, rather than that any of their prisoners should suffer harm. The money to pay the ransom demanded was provided, the Greek Government were urgently requested not to interfere with the brigands till the prisoners were released (with which request compliance was promised), and to grant the indemnity demanded, Lord Clarendon even offering to send a British ship of war to convey the brigands to Malta or elsewhere, so that they might enjoy their booty in peace. In short, every means were used to get the captives set at liberty in safety except the concurrence of the Greek Government, which, after promising inactivity, at once took measures to seize the brigands and forced them to the desperation under the influence of which the unhappy prisoners were massacred. Thirteen of the brigands are said to have been killed or taken, but the chief and at least eight others escaped. In his closing despatch, dated last Saturday, Lord Clarendon says he has no doubt Mr. Erskine left no means untried to effect the liberation of the party, and to

induce the Greek Government to waive its "futile and (under the circumstances) untenable objection" to grant the amnesty which the brigands demanded. A postscript to this despatch acknowledges the receipt of a telegram from Mr. Erskine announcing the arrival at Athens of the remains of Mr. Herbert and Mr. Lloyd, and their interment in the presence of the King and Queen and the diplomatic body.

In the Italian Parliament on Monday the Minister for Foreign Affairs, in reply to a question, stated that every exertion had been made by the Ministry to save the life of Count de Boyl.

According to the *Mémorial Diplomatique*, the protecting Powers of Greece, after communicating with each other by telegraph, have resolved to address identical notes to the Greek Government in consequence of the late massacre. Mr. Vyner was a younger brother of Countess De Grey and Ripon, and was travelling for pleasure in the East. Mr. Herbert was the third secretary of the British Legation at Athens, and a cousin of Lord Carnarvon. Mr. Lloyd was a barrister engaged in railway practice, and was called to the Bar in 1858. Count de Boyl was Secretary of the Italian Legation in Athens. Lord Muncaster, who has escaped the fate of his companions, is a Baron in the Peerage of Ireland, and a Baronet of Great Britain. He succeeded his brother in 1862, and married a niece of the Earl of Scarborough in 1863.

FRANCE AND THE ROMAN COUNCIL.

The *Augsburg Gazette* publishes the text of the memorandum from Count Daru, which has recently been communicated to the Papal Government. The memorandum is of considerable length, and, after recalling the reasons assigned in the despatch of Feb. 20 which had induced the Emperor's Government to depart from the policy of strict abstention which it had prescribed for itself in respect to the proceedings of the Council, proceeds thus:—

"Recently, however, questions of political and State interest have been mooted in the Council. The relations between the Church and the State have been the subject of propositions which are soon to be brought under discussion. His Majesty's Government has therefore felt it a right and a duty to offer some observations upon this special point, and to indicate the inconveniences which may follow upon the adoption of maxims which trench upon the laws of the country. In the exercise of this right, and for the accomplishment of this duty, it does not apply any pressure that can in any degree trammel the deliberations of the august Council. Its intervention is purely moral, and it is confined to matters which are indisputably within the category of the civil power. In requiring that the laws and rights of civil society should be respected, it is careful to avoid even the semblance of disrespect towards the rights and liberties of religious society. It intervenes simply because it appears to it that the limits between the separate domains have been exceeded. Confiding, respectful, fixed in our sentiments, we address ourselves to the generous mind of the Holy Father; we recall to his recollection those relations of mutual good-will which, during seventy years, have united the two Governments, and have ensured social and religious peace. It is in order to preserve those good relations that we urgently request from the wisdom of the Holy Pontiff and the Fathers of the Council to erase from the Schema de Ecclesia all those portions which in the text published, and not disavowed, would, we fear, have the gravest consequences to legal and social order in all the States of Europe. The more the doctrine embodied in that document is examined, the more apparent is it that this doctrine substantially involves a complete subordination of civil society to religious society. We wish that plausible explanations or desirable modifications could enable us to give to these resolutions a different interpretation. But in the present position of affairs, unless we refuse to give to words their real and natural meaning, it is impossible not to be convinced that the Schema de Ecclesia would have the object and end of re-establishing throughout the world the ascendancy of doctrines subordinating civil society to the rule of the clergy. In fact, according to the provisions contained in this Schema, and under the irresistible sanction of anathema, the infallibility and authority of the Church must extend not only to truths transmitted by revelation but also to all those which may appear to be necessary to protect the records of tradition. In other words, this infallibility and this authority have no other limits than those assigned by the Church, and all principles of order—civil, political, scientific—fall directly or indirectly within their competence. It is in this almost boundless field that the right of the Church would be exercised to announce decisions and promulgate laws binding upon the consciences of the faithful, independently of any confirmation from political authority, and even in direct opposition to laws emanating from political authority. It is within this domain, the bounds of which the Church alone would seem to have power to define, that the canons confer upon it complete power, at once legislative, judicial, and coercive, applicable to external acts as well as to internal impressions—a power which the Church would be enabled to enforce by material penalties and to which Christian Princes and Governments would be bound to render their aid by punishing those who sought to evade them. It is evident that if such principles were applied in practice, if Governments were to retain no power, and civil societies no liberty, beyond the power and the liberty which it might please the Church to permit to them, their most essential rights, the foundation of their political constitutions, the bases of their civil legislation in matters of property, family, and education might at any time be brought in question by the ecclesiastical authority. As a complement of this system it has been proposed to include in the same decree the personal and separate infallibility of the Pope—that is to say, after having concentrated all political and religious powers in the hands of the Church, to concentrate all the powers of the Church in the hands of its chief. Such are the measures which the Ecumenical Council would be called upon to proclaim in the nineteenth century; and as these maxims are not admitted or recognised in any part of Christian Europe, a universal anathema would be hurled in the name of the Holy Father against all institutions and all societies. We are told certainly that the Church declares abstract truths, but does not exact their application; that, if these doctrines conflict with existing laws, they conflict only in point of principle; in fact, they accommodate themselves to all forms of government and all legislations. Such a declaration is insufficient to reassure us. Can it be admitted that to-morrow, in the 40,000 parishes of France, it shall be taught that men are free to believe that they may think in one manner and act in another? This distinction would inflict upon tender consciences the most cruel torture. We have too much respect for the Church, we have too high an opinion of its power, to allow such an argument. We are convinced that it is performing and will perform a serious task, and that, consequently, it will ever strive to reduce to practice those maxims which it has included in articles of belief as immutable verities. We could not admit that the most venerable of Pontiffs has gathered around his throne all the Bishops of the Catholic world simply to prepare and proclaim fruitless laws, to pass vain resolutions. It is added that these maxims are not new, that they simply reproduce the dogmas of an ancient theological teaching, and that the world has ever held the same language. We acknowledge that fact. It is not now for the first time that these doctrines make their appearance. They have been proclaimed in former ages and on various occasions. But all history attests that they have never been accepted in this form, and as a whole, by any Sovereign or by any nation, even in the times when the Catholic faith was universally held. At all times and in all countries the absolute independence of the temporal Government and the Sovereign authority has been emphatically insisted upon by peoples, by kings, and often by a national clergy. Even in the Middle Ages the attempt to enforce these principles was the occasion of the most sanguinary conflicts. The long struggle of the priesthood and the empire is a proof of that. The heresies and schisms which have by degrees separated from Catholic

society the entire Eastern Church and one half of the Western Church have sprung from no other causes. It is true that in the present state of society the declaration of these principles could not involve such grave consequences. The independence of civil society, which at other times might have been regarded as menaced by them, is now both in fact and by law beyond all controversy and all attack. Liberty of conscience and of religious belief being universally admitted, renders it impossible to imagine even the domination of religious society over political society. We have nothing of that kind to fear. Those even who most vehemently urge the Council to convert this doctrine into a dogma admit that the necessities of the times will condemn such decrees to remain dead letters. Modern principles have been definitively adopted into the public law of Europe, and will never be erased from it, because they are indispensable alike to the dignity and the liberty of men and of Governments. It is no feeling of political uneasiness which influences us and dictates the representations which we feel to be our duty to address to the Council. It is a fear at once more serious and more disinterested—the fear that there may be created, if the wisdom of the Holy See does not prevent it, a kind of antagonism between civil society and the Church, which may be equally prejudicial to both. The Government of the Emperor considers and has always considered these harmonious relations in the midst of Christian nations as one of the most essential bases of social peace. How can that be maintained if the highest religious authority of this world, that of the Ecumenical Council, should condemn the maxims upon which legislation reposes, and declare the principles of public law to be contrary to the principles inculcated by the Church? When the echo of such declarations issuing from the Vatican shall resound from the pulpit of the smallest village, and touch the conscience of the humblest Catholics, will there not be reason to apprehend that the germs of difference thus implanted in men's minds may be developed, and sooner or later be converted into real facts? The Government of the Emperor has yielded to the most imperious sense of duty in calling the grave attention of the Fathers of the Council to these dangers. As far as relates to itself personally, nothing could have been easier than to have silently allowed these projected resolutions to be adopted, having always the power to declare null and of no effect every maxim opposed to the public law or to the general feeling of the French nation. Advice of this kind has not been wanting. The Government, however, has not hesitated for a single instant in repudiating these timid suggestions. The policy which consists in waiting till an evil be done and has become incapable of reconsideration is a shortsighted policy, and one which would not be worthy either of the Emperor or of a great nation like our own. Proved friends of the Church, it is not our place to recall the proofs of devotion to it which we have given. But we may say that we remain faithful to our traditions, and never shall we have rendered to it a more signal service than on the day when, addressing the august representatives of Catholicity assembled at Rome, we warn them of the danger to which they are exposing themselves. We do not desire to restrict their freedom; we only raise our voice in order to point out to them the consequences of their acts. We are towards them the faithful interpreters of public opinion everywhere expressed, which, far from remaining silent, speaks aloud and unmistakably. It is perilous to brave it, useful to consult it, necessary to listen to it. There would be an end of public peace, of the concord between political and religious society, if a reactionary movement should be excited in men's minds, and if the enemies of the Church were furnished with a weapon which they would know only too well how to use against it. The Cardinal Secretary of State, in replying to the communication which the Emperor's Government thought it right to make to him immediately upon the presentation of the Schema de Ecclesia, has himself perceived the necessity of allaying the disquietude which the ideas contained in that document had everywhere occasioned. His Eminence, in his despatch of March 19, speaking of the two powers, said, 'that the competence of each being perfectly distinct and definite, according to the object for which each was established, the Church does not exercise by virtue of its authority a direct and absolute interference in questions relating to the constitutive principles of Governments, the forms of civil institutions, the political rights of citizens, the duties of the State, and the other points referred to in the note of Feb. 20.' Afterwards treating of the Concordat, Cardinal Antonelli again says that 'the points of mutual competency being settled by that document, any decisions which may be arrived at by the Council in respect of such matters will not in any way affect the special stipulations agreed upon between the Holy See and France and other Powers.' The Emperor's Government is far from undervaluing the importance of these declarations. It takes notice of them, and it derives from them great confidence in the definitive resolutions of the Holy Father and the Council. It is, in fact, by adopting the line of conduct marked out by the Cardinal Secretary of State that the apprehensions which we have expressed to the Holy See, and which we now submit to the august assembly itself, can be removed. It is by declarations based upon these wise maxims that the Fathers of the Council may return to that point of view from which public opinion, calm and sympathetic, but now anxious and alarmed, watched the completion of the grand task committed to their wisdom. It depends upon them to modify in this sense the propositions which have been submitted to them, and thus to avoid all declarations which would be of a nature to disturb and compromise the relations between the Church and the State. As the guardians of social peace, Government have as a first duty to guard against aught that can affect it. They would be failing in their duty if under existing circumstances they maintained silence. The agitation caused in the Christian world by the expectation of the resolutions of the Council warns them of the imperative necessity of speaking out and of protesting against propositions which, if they were adopted, must inevitably produce grievous troubles. These propositions affect the State as much as they do religion, the Church, and the Holy See."

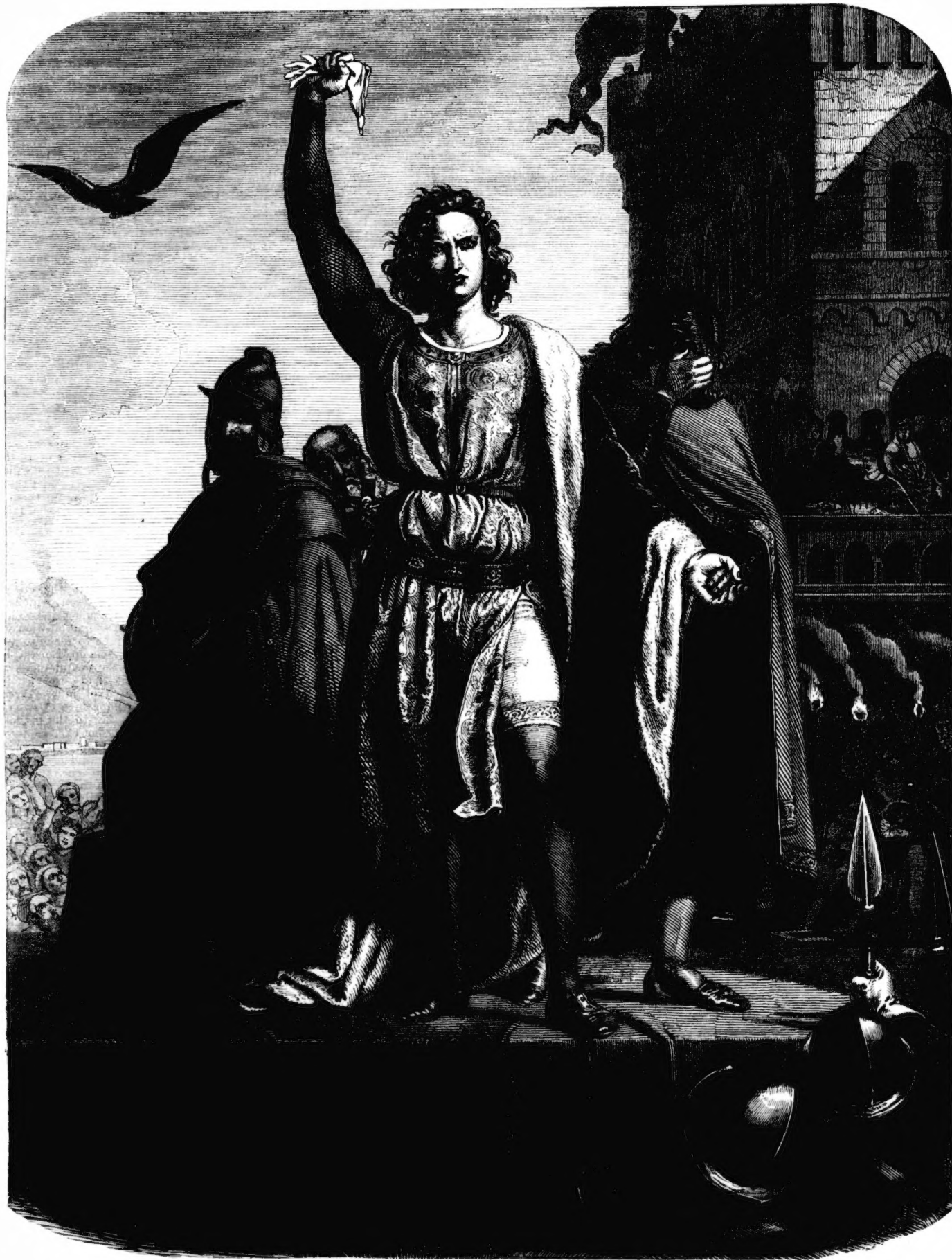
ENGLISH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—The Synod or Supreme Court of this Church has concluded its annual sittings. A discussion was held on the education question, which resulted in the adoption of a petition to Parliament in favour of the bill now before the House of Commons, with such amendments as would secure that any religious teaching given in the national schools should be unsectarian and Scriptural. The subject of union with other Presbyterian Churches was also considered. A report was brought up by a committee which stated, that while the advances hitherto made towards an integral union of the negotiating Churches—namely, the Free Church of Scotland, the Reformed Presbyterian Church, and the United Presbyterian Church—were slow and painful, it was gratifying to find that there were indications of a growing desire for union in England among the Presbyterian bodies. A motion was passed to the effect that the Synod was ready to enter into negotiations for incorporation with the United Presbyterian Church in England, so soon as the latter shall obtain independent jurisdiction, apart from the United Presbyterians in Scotland. The question of ministerial support was likewise discussed, and a proposal was adopted to establish what is called a "sustentation fund" for the purpose of securing to ministers in ordinary churches a minimum stipend of at least £150 per annum, in addition to what might be contributed directly by the congregation. Perhaps the most important subject brought forward related to the expediency of granting liberty to congregations to introduce instrumental music into public worship, if they so desire. Several congregations in London and the provinces have been in the habit of using either an organ or a harmonium, and as the use of instrumental music is opposed to the usual practice of the Church it was considered necessary to give a deliberate decision on the matter this year. A motion was accordingly proposed to the effect that all congregations should have full liberty to introduce instrumental music into public worship or not, as might be deemed most expedient. The proposal was strongly opposed by a number of members, who endeavoured to show that circumcision, sacrifice, and instrumental music were removed from the services of the sanctuary at the same time, and that it was now sinful to employ an organ in public worship. The great majority of the Synod, however, held that this view was unsound, and passed the motion in favour of the use of instrumental music. The next annual meeting of the Synod will be held in Manchester.

"CONRADIN'S GLOVE."

Who that lingers over the romance of history will not remember, as among its most striking episodes, the scene on the scaffold in the market-place of Naples, where the youthful Conradin and his cousin, Frederic of Austria, were executed, after having been given up to Charles of Anjou by the treachery of John Frangipani, Lord of Astura. When the barber Labrosse—but, stay! the reader who has forgotten the story will ask what has a barber to do with these events? It happens that barbers have often had a finger in State pies, and have helped to move the hidden springs that influence great events; and it may be readily imagined that the man who has the opportunity of holding Royalty by the nose, and having Kings and Emperors at an advantage, by swaddling them in a peignoir, and then lathering their chins, will not miss the chance of interfering in what only indirectly concerns them. In the records of the famous barbers of France (and there really are such records) we

hear of these ambitious shavers, who were, however, more than mere shavers, since they were barber-surgeons, and when in attendance on royalty were called *mires*, combining the office of medical adviser with that of valet-de-chambre. Do we not read in Victor Hugo's great work of that Olivier le Daim (Oliver the Buck), surnamed the Wicked, or the Devil, who was *mire* to Louis XI.? What power and emoluments that man had! But the wily and experienced fanatic his master used him to affront the nobles, and to show them in how small esteem he held their boasted honours when he could raise a mere obscure barber to such honour. On the death of his master, Oliver was executed quickly enough, as Louis himself had partially foretold when his capacious vanity demanded every fresh office that became vacant. Then there was the barber who was *mire* to Louis IX., the famous Miton, noted for wisdom and deep counsel in the siege of Damietta; and again the scheming villain who has to do with our present story, Labrosse, the valet de chambre to Philip the Bold.

To this man, who had risen from Court barber to be the Royal Chamberlain and confidant, is attributed the evil counsel which led his master into interference with the Albigenses, and with the affairs of Navarre and Castile. However, the barber-surgeon shot beyond his mark, and endeavoured to inspire the King with a suspicion that his second Queen, Marie of Brabant, had poisoned her step-son Louis, his eldest son, in order to bring her own children to the throne. The nobles were too many for Labrosse after that, and in 1278 he was arraigned on a charge never promulgated, and hanged, to the satisfaction of everybody concerned, except, perhaps, the King, who at once engaged in war with Peter of Aragon, whose crown had been offered by the Pope to Charles of Valois, Philippe's second son. At this time the Pope had excommunicated everybody supposed to have any desire to hold the kingdoms or dukedoms of the south, except as vassals of his own; and as he had already excommunicated and hunted down the Albigenses who settled in many of these terri-



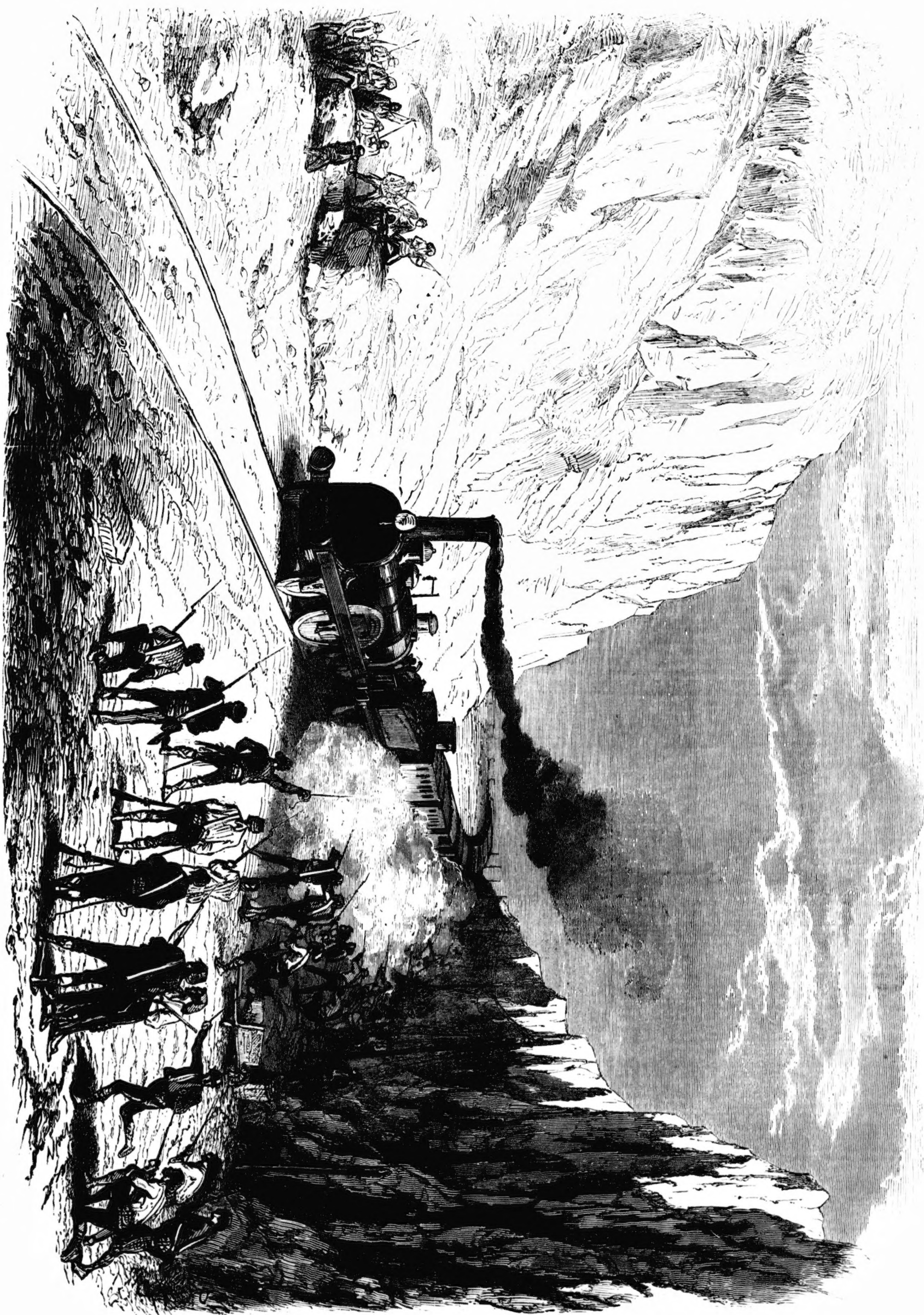
"CONRADIN'S GLOVE."—(PICTURE BY PLUDEMANN.)

stories, excuses for giving away dukedoms were easily found. There was, at all events, ample excuse for excommunicating Peter of Aragon, for he had married Constance, the daughter of that arch-excommunicant and able and generous leader Manfred, the natural son of Frederick II., who was appointed by his father Regent of the Two Sicilies on behalf of his brother Conrad, the legitimate heir. Upon this the Pope excommunicated Manfred, and the people of Apulia revolted under the Papal influence; but Conrad himself came with an armed force and suppressed the insurrection, though at the expense of his own line, for he died without coming to his kingdom, leaving a widow, Margaret, and an only son, Conradin, a little fellow of two years old. The boy was acknowledged as Duke of Swabia, but his kingdom of Sicily and Apulia was ruled by his uncle Manfred as Regent, who held out against the Pope and the disaffected people with consummate courage and skill. Naples opened its gates to the Pope, but Manfred found refuge amongst his father's faithful Saracens at Lucera; and upon the death of Innocent recovered possession of Naples and cleared it of the invaders. It was at that time reported that Conradin had died in Germany, and the prelates and barons, as well as the townsfolk of the kingdom, offered the crown to Manfred and

raised him to the throne. Soon afterwards messengers arrived from Margaret to inform him that his nephew was still alive, and claiming the inheritance in his name. Manfred refused to give up the crown, but made a solemn declaration that Conradin should succeed him—an arrangement which amounted to much the same thing as the holding of the regency by Manfred till the boy came of age. However, the new Pope had offered the crown of Sicily to anybody, or at least any Prince, who would take it as his vassal; and it had been refused by Richard, Earl of Cornwall, brother to our Henry III., who laughed at the proposal, and said it was like making him a present of the moon. Urban then offered it to Henry himself for his son, but the Monarch had neither troops nor money to help his Holiness. Then Urban died, and Clement IV. succeeded him, the crown of Sicily being still in the market, until it was accepted by Charles of Anjou, who, in 1266, marched from Rome and met Manfred under the walls of Benevento, where the Saracen troops fought bravely, but were deserted by the Apulians, so that Manfred spurred his horse into the thickest of the fight, and fell under a heap of slain. Of the indignities inflicted on the dead body of the man who when alive defied both Pope and vassal, one may read by reference to Dante's "Purgatoria."

Of the history of Manfred there are two chroniclers; the Guelphs, who represent him as a fiend, guilty of the most horrible crimes; and the Neapolitans, who represent him as brave, accomplished, and possessing all noble qualities. The Guelphs had most influence at that time, and so the fancy dwells on the character of Manfred as having about it something mysterious, doubtful, and uncanny. The youthful Conradin, however, was too much like his warlike and princely race to give up his inheritance without striking a blow, and in 1267, though he was only sixteen years of age, he collected a few thousand men and set out for Verona, where he was well received by the Ghibelline leaders of northern Italy. He entered Rome without opposition, the Pope being at Viterbo, and thence proceeded to the Abruzzi, and met his opponent Charles at Tagliacozzo. At first victory seemed to declare in his favour; but Charles came up with a reserve, and turned the fortunes of the day. Conradin, his cousin, Frederic Duke of Austria, and others, escaped, and, descending the mountains, reached Astura, on the seacoast, where Frangipani at once seized the two young men and gave them up for a sum of money.

Then came the sorrowful end. Taken to Naples, tried, and sentenced, even against the protest of celebrated jurists, the



THE LATE CONSCRIPTION RIOTS IN CATALONIA: RIOTERS ATTACKING A TRAIN ON THE BARCELONA AND SARAGOSA RAILWAY.—SEE PAGE 285.

cousins were led to the scaffold in the market-place of Naples and there beheaded, on Oct. 29, 1268. Already the poor, anxious, stricken mother, Margaret of Pavara, was on her way with a heavy ransom; but she arrived too late, and used the money that was to have purchased her son's life in founding the great Convent del Carmine, where the bodies of the two young men were buried behind the great altar. Tradition, but not history, declares that just before his execution the noble youth stood up, and, looking with intense gaze into the crowd, as though he sought some one there, hung his glove far among the people; that the glove was carried to Peter of Aragon, the husband of Constance, daughter of Manfred, and that, taking up that token, he at once made war on Charles of Anjou. Whether the story be true or not, Peter was quickly in arms; and, fearing excommunication little, since he had been under its ban for some time, succeeded in crushing the power of his adversary and effecting a division of the kingdom, he himself acquiring the crown of Sicily.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 375. A GOOD STROKE OF WORK.

We have waited to the last moment for something worthy of being chronicled or described, but have waited almost in vain. The House assembled after its Easter recreation on Monday, and, as there were but few members present, did, in the course of the evening, a good stroke of work. It passed the Naturalisation Bill through Committee; it got the War-Office Bill, after some opposition from Mr. Joshua Fielden, Lord Elcho, and others, read the third time and passed; it read Mr. Goschen's Metropolitan Poor Law Relief Bill the second time; it passed, also, the Bridgewater and Beverley Disfranchisement Bill over its second stage; ditto the Norwich Disfranchisement of Voters Bill; and also the Wine and Beerhouses Act Amendment Bill. Then Mr. Solicitor-General brought in the Government University Tests Bill; Mr. Cardwell a bill for shortening the time of enlistment in the Army; and the Lord Advocate a bill to amend the Scottish law of entail, and another to amend the Scottish criminal courts procedure. This was a capital night's work; far away the best that we have had this Session. You see, readers, a great many members had not come up; those who were present, after recruiting their health in the country, were in capital spirits and unusually good-humoured. Health has a great deal to do with the easy working of our legislative machine. Half a dozen talkative members, troubled with indigestion, will oftentimes throw the machinery out of gear and seriously delay the progress of business.

TORRENS ON THE COLONIES.

Tuesday nights are always devoted to private members—theories, plans, and crochets; and it is mere truth to say that these nights are not unfrequently entirely wasted. Last Tuesday was seized by Mr. Torrens, the member for Cambridge, to air a theory of his on colonial matters. Mr. Torrens—Robert Richard, not McCullagh Torrens—is a returned colonist. He lived in South Australia many years, and held several civil and military offices in succession there; and for a time represented Adelaide in the South Australian Parliament; and, according to his own account, as we have it in "Debrett," did valuable service for the colony. On his return to this country, in 1865, he offered his services to the electors of Cambridge; but they at that time, ignorant, probably, of the fame which he achieved at the antipodes, rejected him somewhat decisively; but in 1868, when Parliament had been reformed and the number of electors trebled, he was returned at the head of the poll. This was very creditable to the Cambridge electors; for, though an exceedingly dull and wearisome speaker, Mr. Torrens is beyond doubt an able man—at all events, he is preferable to Mr. Powell and Mr. Gorst, the old members; Mr. Powell especially, for a mind so entirely rayless as that of Mr. Powell is scarcely conceivable. Moreover, the electors of Cambridge returned with Mr. Torrens Mr. William Fowler, who is known to be an accomplished gentleman. Mr. Torrens made a very long speech to a by no means numerous or attentive House. Well, he was not interrupted; on the contrary, there was profound silence whilst he was talking, but at a glance we could see that it was not the silence of attention, but rather that of a sort of torpor which had crept over the House as if the members had all been mesmerised by the speaker's monotonous, colourless, dreary style. What Mr. Torrens said, what special theory he propounded, we cannot tell, for with sufficient attention to listen to him long enough or with sufficient attention to ascertain his opinions. Mr. Torrens has had large experience in one of our most important colonies; must know more than most men in this country how the colonists feel and what they want; pity, then, that he cannot impart his knowledge in a more attractive, impressive style.

LORD BURY.

After Mr. Torrens came Lord Bury. He has travelled much in another colony—to wit, Canada—and indeed got a wife there, and, of course, on a colonial subject, must give his opinion. Besides, his Lordship wants office, at least so everybody says; and aspirants for office must not hide their light under a bushel, but set it aloft to be seen of men, at least by the rulers of men. The Secretaryship or Under-Secretaryship of the Colonies, no doubt, would suit him exactly, if Mr. Monsell were but out of the way. Well; patience, your Lordship. This is a changeable world. The political cards are certainly being shuffled, and there can hardly be a doubt that soon a trump-card will turn up for you. But this speech was too long; was, indeed, unconsciously long. If the two hours' talk had been compressed into one, it would have been more attractive and more effective. Ha! that art of packing much in a little compass! Would that members, and speakers in general, would study it! We remember a most admirable speech made by his Lordship on the subject of Canada—compact, simple, graphic; and we also remember, too, how it held the House; and how, when his Lordship sat down, applause came from both sides. Since then the noble Lord has got to be more diffusive, which is not an improvement. The debate dragged on till after the small hours had set in, and ended in—nothing.

GOOD NEWS FOR THE DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.

On Wednesday we had that poor deceased wife's sister before the House, pleading, through her counsel, Mr. T. Chambers (the Common Serjeant), to be allowed to marry her deceased sister's husband. Many, many years she has pleaded, but hitherto in vain. Since she first appeared many a head which wagged in her favour has become white with age; and many a tongue which eloquently pleaded her cause is now silent in the grave. But, cheer up, thou forlorn one! The cloud has turned its silver lining out, and there are signs that, under the energetic conduct of Mr. Chambers and by the powerful aid of the Government, your cause will speedily triumph, and you will be able to marry your sister's widower, or, if it be that you are already married and have borne him children, your marriage will be legalised, and the children will be declared as legitimate by man's law as doubtless they have already by a higher. Yes, it is even so. On Wednesday the bill, amidst loud cheering, got through Committee; and it is, we hear, not to be further opposed in the Commons. Moreover, rumour says that my Lords will not again reject the measure. So be it! for it is time that the antiquated "ecclesiastical rubbish" which has so long obstructed this measure, and, indeed, many other good measures, should be swept out of the way. And as to Mr. Chambers, if he can steer this bill safely into harbour, he will deserve to be canonised.

READING RACES.—Several months ago the local board of health for the borough of Reading purchased a large portion of land known as the "King's Meadows" for a public recreation-ground. Hitherto the races have been held on this site, and recently a movement has been made by the clergy. Dissenting ministers, and Sunday-school teachers to induce the board of health to withhold their assent to the ground being used in future for the races. At a meeting of this body on Monday a resolution was carried by ten to four against the races being held there. This resolution will have the effect of putting a stop to the Reading races for this year at least.

Imperial Parliament.

MONDAY, APRIL 25.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House of Commons reassembled on Monday for the first time after the Easter holidays, but members did not muster in any great force.

KLIPPING FOREST.

Mr. GLADSTONE, in reply to Mr. Beresford Hope, stated that measures for securing the continued enjoyment of Kipping Forest by the public were in progress, and that he had every reason to hope they would lead to a satisfactory settlement; but the arrangements had not yet reached a stage at which it would be desirable to make a public communication on the subject.

THE MASSACRE IN GREECE.

The UNDER-SECRETARY for FOREIGN AFFAIRS, at the instance of Mr. Monk, explained that information had been received at his department which confirmed the intelligence published in the morning papers concerning the recent murders of English subjects by Greek banditti in the neighbourhood of Marathon. No efforts, he proceeded to say, had been wanting on the part of our Minister at Athens to avert the sad fate that had befallen those gentlemen. There had been no difficulty with regard to the payment of the sum demanded as ransom. Nor had our Minister been remiss in his efforts to induce the Greek Government to grant the amnesty which the brigands required as a condition of the captives' release. Unfortunately, however, that concession was not made, and according to intelligence received Mr. Herbert and the Secretary to the Italian Legation had been put to death by the brigands under the pressure of an attack upon them by the Greek troops, and Mr. Vyner and Mr. Lloyd had been carried off, and killed near Thebes. There was reason to believe that Lord Muncaster was safe.

THE NEWSPAPER POST AND THE STAMP DUTIES.

In Committee of Ways and Means resolutions were agreed to abolishing the impressed stamp on newspapers, substituting for it a halfpenny postage stamp, reducing the postage on books and other printed matter to a halfpenny for every two ounces, and establishing the new scale of stamp duties proposed in the Budget of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

THE NATURALISATION BILL.

The Naturalisation Bill was passed through Committee after a short discussion.

WAR OFFICE BILL.

The third reading of the War Office Bill of the Government, which created two new under-secretaries, having seats in the House, with salaries of £1500 a year each, was opposed by Mr. J. FIELDEN, who remarked that one of these officers was to be a financial secretary and the other a clerk of the Ordnance—the latter an office which it became absolutely necessary to abolish during the Crimean War. The measure was, therefore, a retrograde one, and he objected to it on that ground, and also because it threw an increased burden upon the taxpayers, was introduced at an inopportune moment, came with bad grace from the professing friends of retrenchment and economy whilst they were engaged in dismissing dockyard labourers, soldiers, and sailors by thousands; and, in short, that it was a palpable blunder.

Mr. CARDWELL generally commended the bill to the approval of the House by showing that its object was not to increase salaries but Parliamentary responsibility. It really revived the old Board of Ordnance to a limited extent in the person of the clerk of the Ordnance; and the old office of Secretary for War in the person of the Financial Secretary.

On the right hon. gentleman resuming his seat, Mr. FIELDEN intimated that he should persist with his amendment for reading the bill that day six months; but upon a division he was defeated by 80 to 6, and the bill was therefore read the third time and passed.

METROPOLITAN POOR RELIEF BILL.

Mr. GOSCHEN having moved the second reading of this bill, Dr. BREWER opposed the measure as a violation of the principle of the poor law and on account of its centralising tendency.

Mr. W. M. TORRENS characterised it as a de-franchising bill. Mr. SAMUDA regarded it in the light of a measure which would redress inequality of taxation by distributing the burden over a wider area of the metropolis.

Sir H. HOARE thanked the Government for introducing the proposal, and hoped the principle of the bill would be extended ere long to outdoor as well as indoor relief.

Mr. G. HARDY, whilst giving a general support to the bill, declared against an absolute equalisation of rates in London. Mr. GOSCHEN replied upon the whole debate; and, having promised to consider various suggestions in Committee, the bill was read the second time and ordered to be committed on Thursday.

DISFRANCHISEMENT OF BEVERLEY AND BRIDGWATER.

On the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, the second reading of the bill to disfranchise the boroughs of Bridgwater and Beverley was agreed to.

TUESDAY, APRIL 26. HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. R. TORRENS criticised the policy of the Government in relation to the colonies, as illustrated by the transactions in New Zealand, the Australia, and the Canadian Dominion; and finally moved for the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the political relations and modes of official intercommunication between the self-governing colonies and this country, and to report whether any or what modifications are desirable, with a view to the maintenance of a common nationality cemented by cordial good understanding.

Mr. EASTWICK having seconded the motion, Lord BURY moved the "previous question," and in doing so urged that when, as in the case of New Zealand, responsible Ministers like Mr. Fox declined the interference of the mother country in their affairs, our mouths were stopped, and we rendered ourselves ridiculous by continuing to assure the colonists that they were maltreated and oppressed. The tie between the mother country and her colonies was a purely voluntary one. He objected to the appointment of a Committee because he thought the Government ought to take the responsibility upon themselves. If there were any other solution of the matter than separation, or if in the opinion of Ministers there were ought to be inquired into, let them issue a Royal Commission for that purpose.

Sir C. B. ANDERLEY regarded the discussion as likely to be much more useful than the appointment of a Committee, who would only raise expectations that must be disappointed. No doubt a sense of dissatisfaction had been expressed by some colonies with the present policy of the Home Government. But the question was, whether that feeling had any foundation, was there any truth in the allegations made by the complainants, or was it not rather a sentiment of disappointment springing from the pursuit of a false policy, and now reviving our true relations with them? The withdrawal of the troops, indeed, was in reality a return to the earliest, best, and most successful colonial policy that this country had ever acted upon. He did not object to the utterance of a feeling of sympathy with the colonists; but he could not consent to a sort of roving Commission which would put our colonial relations in a false position, and tend more to separation than to the cementing of the union which all parties desired to see established and perpetuated.

The debate was continued by Mr. MAGUIRE and Mr. R. N. FOWLER, both of whom supported the motion.

Mr. MONSELL, in opposing it on behalf of the Government, denied that Ministers had endeavoured to force the colonies to break off their connection with the mother country, and pointed exultingly at the fact that Mr. Torrens had been unable to cite an opinion uttered by any one legislator in any one colony adverse to the policy which had been pursued, or name a single petition presented to the House or memorial to the Colonial Office to that effect. Granting that the case of New Zealand fairly challenged discussion, he contended that the Government were not chargeable with injustice because they had consented to send troops to the Red River Settlement and refused to supply any to New Zealand. The two cases were totally different, for the Red River had no settled Government. It was a territory which we had engaged to hand over to the Dominion of Canada; and there were obligations resting upon us, in that instance, which had no existence in the case of New Zealand.

After some remarks by Sir C. Dilke, Mr. GLADSTONE, while explicitly declaring that in the course which he had pursued since he became Colonial Secretary Earl Granville had acted in harmony with the views of all his colleagues, denied that the present Government had introduced any new system of colonial policy or done anything more than apply, as opportunity offered, a policy which had long since been accepted by statesmen of all parties, and which, while not tending to the separation of the colonies from the mother country, would ensure that such separation, if it took place, should be carried out peacefully and in a friendly spirit. An appeal which the right hon. gentleman addressed to the member for Cambridge to induce him to withdraw his motion proved unsuccessful; but upon a division the previous question was carried by a majority of 43—110 to 67, and the resolution was not, therefore, put to the House.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

Upon the motion of Mr. DENISON, a Select Committee was granted to inquire into the law of compensation for accidents as applied to railway companies, and into its administration, and the terms of reference were, at the instance of Mr. Hinde Palmer, extended so as to include "the precautions and improvements" which ought to be adopted by railway companies to prevent the occurrence of accidents.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27. HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.

The House devoted its sitting chiefly to the consideration of Mr. T.

Chambers's bill to legalise marriage with a deceased wife's sister, upon the motion for going into Committee.

Mr. WALPOLE moved an amendment to the effect that it was inexpedient to alter the law of marriage, which had existed in this country from time immemorial, as to the degrees of kindred and affinity within which marriages are permitted, until Parliament has considered the question whether degrees of affinity should be put on a different footing from the corresponding degrees of consanguinity. The intention of the existing law was, he said, that no marriages should be contracted within the family circle, whether the persons contemplating such marriages were connected by consanguinity or affinity.

The amendment having been seconded by Mr. MONK, Mr. GLADSTONE observed that the bill carefully avoided interfering with the by-law of any religious community; and all it asked the House to do was to establish a rule by which, for civil purposes, certain marriages might be contracted. Having regard to the diversity of religious communities in this country, and considering that, with the exception of the Established Church in England and the Presbyterian Church in Scotland, there was no religious body which made it a matter of conscience to maintain this particular prohibition, he owned he could not see the advantage of confining upon one community the ecclesiastical rules of marriage.

Admitting that the question ought not to be opened except upon a great emergency, he appealed to the fact that the movement in favour of an amendment of the law had been sustained by increasing majorities, both in the House of Commons and out of doors, for the last quarter of a century. Sir R. PALMER characterised the bill as a measure which would compromise the hallowed position of the sister-in-law. He also objected to change which did not make the marriage law uniform in the three kingdoms, and warmly protested against the bill on account of its retrospective operation.

After a reply upon the whole debate from Mr. CHAMBERS and some remarks from Mr. COLLINS, who argued that if there was to be legislation it should be conceived in a comprehensive and intelligible spirit, and not with such tinkering bills as this, the House divided, and decided upon going into Committee by 184 to 114. On the first clause, which legalises existing marriages within the prohibited degree, Mr. TALBOT moved an amendment the object of which was to deprive the bill of its retrospective action; but the Committee negatived the proposal by 177 to 90. Subsequently the bill was passed through Committee, and, amidst loud cheers, ordered to be reported to the House.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28. HOUSE OF LORDS.

Their Lordships met this evening for the first time since the Easter recess. Lord Wolverton, who was formerly Mr. G. Carr Glyn, took the oath and his seat.

THE MASSACRE IN GREECE.

Lord CLARENDON laid on the table the correspondence relative to brigandage in Greece, which had already appeared in the newspapers. Yesterday he received another important despatch throwing considerable light on the massacre, and that had been laid before their Lordships to-day, so that there had been no delay in the matter. This afternoon he had received from Mr. Erskine a telegram which stated that 500 soldiers were in pursuit of the brigands. He felt that some explanation was due to their Lordships respecting the cause of this matter, and some justification of the course which had been taken in the difficult position in which he was placed. He could not consult any of his colleagues, all of whom were absent from London. They would take their share of the responsibility of what he had done in urgent and peculiar circumstances.

Lord CARNARVON tendered to the noble Lord his earnest and heartfelt thanks for the efforts that had been made—but, alas! in vain—to avert this catastrophe both by his noble friend and the gentleman who had acted for him. He could not but regard the Greek Government as deeply responsible for what had occurred. Lives had been sacrificed; but he wished to deal justly, and wished to suspend his judgment until the whole case was before Parliament, and then he would ask their Lordships to pronounce judgment on this horrible and atrocious act. He appealed to the country not to allow delay to dull the keenness of their feelings or to share one jot of the punishment which must be inflicted when the day of reckoning arrived.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The following bills were read the third time and passed:—Abbot's Wood (Denn Forest) Inclosure Bill, Callendar and Oban Railway Bill, Ecclehill and Bolton Gas Bill, Glasgow Houses of Refuge Bill, Leeds Corporation Gas (Purchase, &c.) Bill, Newport Pagnell Railway Bill, and Wolverhampton and Walsall Railway Bill.

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT RAILWAY BILL.

On the motion for the third reading of this bill, Mr. R. W. CRAWFORD moved that the bill be read the third time that day six months.

Mr. R. N. FOWLER bore testimony to the great public inconvenience which would be caused if the scheme laid down in the bill were carried out. After some discussion the House divided—For the third reading, 200; against, 179; majority, 21. The bill was therefore read the third time and passed.

THE RECENT MURDERS OF ENGLISH CAPTIVES IN GREECE.

An hon. member asked if any further information had been received from Athens, other than that laid before Parliament, with regard to the pursuit of the brigands in Greece.

Mr. OTWAY said that the Secretary of State had lost no time in pressing on her Majesty's Minister at Athens certain points in regard to which it was necessary to have fuller information. The following telegram had been received to-day, from Mr. Erskine, under to-day's date:—"I have seen the list of the brigands still at large from Mr. Barron. Upwards of 500 troops in pursuit; and no exertion will be spared to capture and bring them to justice. The heads of seven of them have been publicly exposed here; and five others are about to be examined. If convicted, they will be executed immediately." Mr. Erskine had also exerted himself with regard to the probable attempted escape of brigands over the frontier; and had been met by the Turkish Government with the utmost promptness, who would do everything in their part to capture the brigands. From Mr. Barron, the Secretary to the Embassy at Constantinople, a telegram had been received, dated April 27: "Orders have been sent for the arrest of brigands on Turkish territory, and to deliver them to the Greek authorities." A telegram had also been received from Mr. Erskine, stating that the Antelope had left for Malta with the bodies of Mr. Herbert and Mr. Vyner.

THE IRISH LAND BILL.

The House went into Committee on this bill, resuming the consideration of Mr. Headlam's amendment requiring that on the expiration of a lease a tenant should give up possession quietly, and that the expiration of a lease should not be deemed a disturbance. After some discussion the amendment was negatived without a division.

Sir F. HEYGATE moved the insertion of a proviso enabling landlords and tenants to enter into leases subject to the approval of the Court. The SOLICITOR-GENERAL for IRELAND said the power embodied in the amendment would be provided for in the tenth clause in the case of tenancies above £50 value. Mr. GLADSTONE also objected to the form of the amendment, which was withdrawn.

THE GAME LAWS.—The East Suffolk Chamber of Agriculture again discussed the question of game on Monday. After a warm debate, in which the preservation of hares and rabbits was universally condemned, resolutions were passed affirming that the over-preservation of game is an injury to the country; that the right of the tenant to the game should be inalienable, and that he should be compensated otherwise than by rent for damage to crops; and that, while game should be efficiently protected from poachers, it should be by putting it on the footing of other property.

STRIKES.—The strike of the Glasgow joiners has virtually come to an end, all the men being at work on their own terms of nine hours a day and payment at the rate of 6½d. an hour. Some of the masters yet hold out; but those who have submitted are so far behind with their work that they could employ more hands than are obtainable. A strike of the Scotch miners is in prospect in the event of the masters not conceding an advance of 1s. a day in wages and the eight-hours' system of labour on May 16 next. The movement has had its origin in Lanarkshire, but it seems likely to become general.

THE CENSUS OF 1871.—The total amount required for taking the Census of England and Wales in 1871 is estimated at £120,000; for the Census of Scotland, £30,000; for the Census of Ireland, £32,000. Only a small part of these sums will have to be voted this Session; and the demand for the rest will be spread over probably three or four years. The last Census rendered an account of the population on April 7, 1861. April 7, 1871, will be Good Friday. That is a time of year when there is a temporary movement of population, which might render the exact date inappropriate. The Census of 1851 showed the population on March 30; and the census of 1841 the population on June 7.

FEARFUL FALL FROM A CHIMNEY.—A terrible accident occurred at Bolton last Saturday evening. Two men, named William Yates and John Hall, had been engaged to place a new coping-stone on the chimney of the Bullfield cotton-mill, belonging to Messrs. Ormrod and Hardcastle. For this purpose they had erected some scaffolding around the summit of the chimney; and, having hoisted up the stone, which weighed from 3 cwt. to 4 cwt., they proceeded to place it in position. The stone became overbalanced, and, striking Yates on the chest, hurled him to the ground—a distance of forty-two yards. It then fell upon and broke the plank on which Hall was standing, but he, fortunately, managed to grasp the ropes and to step upon that portion of the scaffolding which remained intact. Yates fell upon the gable of a cottage, rebounded on to the roof of a timber-hed, and then rebounded again to the ground. When picked up it was found that one of his legs was smashed; several of his ribs were also fractured, and his hands were fearfully lacerated. He died an hour afterwards.

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NUNS AND THEIR "RIGHTS."

We are not about to affirm that it is either a wise or necessary thing to set up a Commission to inquire into the condition of nunneries in England; and there can be no reasonable question that to interrogate a nun against her will would be a breach of justice and a procedure quite out of harmony with the principles of civil liberty which are supposed to be generally acknowledged in this country. But the recently-published letter of "A Nun," which has aroused so much discussion, is as curiously inconsistent in itself as some of the criticism which it has provoked, and furnishes one more illustration of an old thesis—that few people can deal coherently with even their own special beliefs and principles of conduct.

There is nothing in Protestantism which is opposed to the existence of monasteries or nunneries, so long as the monk or the nun is left free to retract the vow at any time upon his or her own responsibility. There are extant well-known letters of Luther, addressed to nuns in what were called free convents, fully admitting the possibility of a vocation for a life of retreat in celibacy, and not uttering one word to discourage anyone from entering upon such a life. But, as Luther was a Protestant; as—in other words—he believed (however inconsistently he sometimes acted), that the individual human being had a direct responsibility towards God, which might conceivably override any engagement entered into with man, unless a direct statute from Heaven could be shown for the permanence of the latter, he strenuously counselled the "free" nuns to take care that their freedom was real.

This was intelligible and consistent; but the appeal of "A Nun" to the principles of civil freedom generally accepted in England was an obvious blunder. In practice we know that, whatever the religion of the country was at any given time, there was always much civil freedom in England; but in strictness, under a Roman Catholic regimen, interpreted upon the ancient lines, civil freedom is an inadmissible conception. The State, in this creed, is the mere minister of the Church, and bound to do her bidding. The Vicar of God is the sole ruler, and it is at any moment or under any circumstances conceivable that he, as the head *de jure* of the whole human community, might take away anyone's freedom or justify or condemn any act taken abstractly. He may order a Government to make war; he may annul a divorce or marriage; he might, conceivably, take away property or hand it over as he pleased; order any penance to any person; or direct a Government to inflict any penalty, imprisonment, death, or what not, upon any person. This is the abstract theory full-blown, and it is one to which the conception of civil liberty is simply foreign—an idea that may happen to be imbedded in it, like a fly in amber, but incapable of fusion with it.

Yet this idea of civil liberty is the very one to which "A Nun" appealed in denying the right of the Government to issue such a Committee as Mr. Newdegate has contemplated. And she appealed to it not as an *argumentum ad hominem*, but as a principle assumed for both sides of the case. Yet in the very same breath the lady affirmed, what is quite true, that a nun leaving the conventual life of her own free will would be by that very act abjuring her faith and becoming a Protestant; because only her spiritual superiors could absolve her from the obligation she had taken upon herself: that is to say, she appeals to the Protestant principle of personal freedom in order that she may be allowed to alienate that very freedom, and denies the principle when anyone wishes to reassume that freedom, or when it is supposed as a basis of inquiry that anyone may wish to reassume it. It is true that to be a consistent "nun" she could do no other; but the dilemma is obvious.

There is one reason and one reason only, which could possibly justify an inspection of convents, or any analogous step—namely, the presumption, with a good show of reason, that people were detained in them against their will; intimidated and imprisoned, in fact. We are not affirming that such a case is made out; and, indeed, the recent tendency to Government meddling with private life is so alarming that we look with suspicion upon any hint of a little more of it. It will not be the fault of a certain class of politicians if we do not shortly find Policeman X in the bed-chamber. He has very nearly got his hand on the door. But it is clear that "A Nun" has once more exhibited for us the inconsistency into which all but the new or liberal school of Roman Catholics inevitably fall. They appeal to the principle of freedom in order to get the gyves off their own wrists, while it is of the very essence of their faith and policy that as soon as ever they get the power they should put the shackles upon ours. It has been openly affirmed a thousand

times over of late years, that the principle on which the Church of Rome is proceeding is, that what is called religious liberty is only a thing for times of anarchy—that is to say, times in which the State and the Church are not at one. This is, taken abstractly, a mere truism, or rather what logicians call "an identical proposition;" but translated into practical language it means, "We will make use of the principle of freedom in order to get the whip-hand of you all, and then we will trample on it." This is nothing new; we only notice the Nun's letter as one more instance of an ever-recurring dilemma.

THE WIMBLEDON RIFLE MEETING.

The annual prize meeting of the National Rifle Association will commence on Monday, July 11, on Wimbledon-common, and will continue till the evening of Friday, July 22. The usual presentation of prizes and review will take place on the following day. The rules and regulations for the Queen's prize and the St. George's challenge vase, the two great contests of the meeting, were published on Monday. For each of these prizes every company and independent subdivision of volunteers is entitled to send two of its efficient members as competitors. Commanding officers may likewise nominate two efficient members of the battalion. Where any company or subdivision does not nominate its full complement of representatives, the vacancies may be filled up by members of other companies in the same battalion. The entrance fee, which gives a right to two sighting shots, will be for the Queen's prize £1 1s. 6d., and for the St. George's half a guinea. Entries must be made on the prescribed forms, and no entry will be accepted after June 7. Intending competitors may each get, on and after April 30, 200 rounds of the same kind of ammunition as will be used in the contests, at the rate of 4s. 7½d. per hundred rounds. The applications must be sent through the usual channel to the control officer in charge of the nearest Government powder magazine. In England there are magazines at Aldershot, Bristol, Bull Point (Devonport), Chatham, Chester, Dover, Hyde Park, Marchwood (near Southampton), Preston, Portsmouth, Sheerness, Tynemouth, Woolwich, and Weedon. In Wales—Breccon, Newport, and Pembroke; and in Scotland—Edinburgh, Fort George, and Stirling Castle.

The contest for the St. George's challenge vase will be under the same conditions as last year, and the prizes will be of the same number and value. Competitors may be nominated as for the Queen's prize, and the entries will close on June 7, and no alteration in the nominal return will be allowed after July 3. The Dragon cup will be competed for by the sixty competitors who make the best scores in the first stage. Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Lindsay, in issuing the regulations, appends to them no less than three N.B.'s, none of which are of sufficient importance to call for a *nota bene*.

The international match for the Elcho challenge shield will take place between representatives of England, Ireland, and Scotland; and gentlemen wishing to compete for the honour of representing England may apply to Mr. W. Wells, M.P., 22, Bruton-street, or to Mr. H. Parsons, Forest Lodge, Ashted, Surrey. The eight who represented England last year, the winners in the second stage of the Albert, winners of the Dudley cup, of the Cambridge cup, and the Army Rifle Wimbledon cup, will be entitled to compete, and to these will be added as many of the best register-makers as will bring up the number to twenty-four. Prizes will be given in connection with the competition.

SINKING OF THE ANDAMAN ISLANDS.—In a recently issued report on the vegetation of the Andaman Islands, Mr. Kurz, the curator of the herbarium of the Calcutta Botanical Gardens, gives it as his opinion that these islands are in a sinking state, and must eventually disappear. Mr. Kurz, however, has made an estimate which will relieve the superintendent of the settlement and the 6000 convicts under his charge of any present fear of a deluge; for he assumes that if the process of submersion proceeds at the rate he expects—namely, of one foot in one hundred years—it will take 1000 years before all the stores and houses along the beach on Ross Island disappear under water. Mr. Kurz is not without a reason for the faith that is in him, and seems to have arrived at this conclusion from having observed, at various points of the islands, a vast extent of decaying vegetation, stumps of trees, &c., covered by, or open to the action of the sea.

THE AUCLAND ISLANDS.—The constant occurrence of shipwrecks upon the stormy and desert Auckland Islands, which has often been made, to establish some kind of station on these islands, with a depot of provisions and common necessities, which should be visited from time to time to rescue the wretched castaways. While the crew of five of the Grafton, whose celebrated shipwreck has been three times narrated in two languages, were on the shores of Port Carnley in the south in 1864-5, the Invercauld was wrecked on the north coast, and nineteen of the crew were saved. Five of these remained with the captain; three of the five survived, and were released a year afterwards by a chance vessel; the fourteen others dispersed themselves over the island and were never seen again. When the Grafton crew got off, the captain (Muggrave) returned to search for survivors, and found one skeleton. In May, 1866, the General Grant was lost on the islands, fifteen of the crew and passengers reaching the shore. Ten survivors were rescued in November, 1867; and now again we hear of "fires on the cliffs of the Auckland Islands" being sighted by a ship that was unable to approach. The signals, it appears, were perhaps made by the shipwrecked crew and passengers of the Matakaka, ninety in number when she left Lyttelton in May, 1869. There are two inlets that are partially sheltered, and that would thus afford sites for stations—Port Ross, or Sarah's Bosom, in the north, and Port Carnley in the south. All that would be necessary would be a rough and substantial house at each, and a depot of preserved provisions. Both inlets could be entered by the search vessels from the Australian station in good weather. Common humanity demands that something of the kind should be done.

THE FENIANS.—Seven men, O'Neill, Carroll, Rooney, Burke, McAntee, O'Hare, and McConnell, all Irish, and residents of Liverpool, were charged before the Birkenhead magistrates, on Monday, with drilling and carrying arms in a quarry at Playbrick-hill, near Birkenhead, on Sunday. Early on that morning, while dressing, the Rev. T. K. M. Morrow, the Vicar of a church in the neighbourhood of the quarry, observed a number of men collecting in the quarry, and afterwards heard shots fired as if from revolvers. He also noticed that some men outside were acting as sentinels. An hour or two afterwards Mr. Morrow met one of the men in Corporation-road, and, after some parley with him, the Vicar gave him into the custody of a police constable who happened to pass in plain clothes. This man gave a false name, he had a revolver upon him, and he was taken to the police-station to be further searched. In the mean time a number of his companions collected near the Bridewell, as if for the purpose of reconnoitring, and six of them (named as above) were arrested. They also had revolvers, some with the chambers loaded. Major Grey, the chief of the Liverpool police, and Divisional Superintendent Ryde (of the same force) were present during the proceedings at Birkenhead on Monday and recognised some of the prisoners as notorious Fenians. At the request of Mr. Anderson, solicitor, who appeared for the prisoners, and who said he had only just been instructed, they were all remanded for seven days.—The *Times* states that the police authorities, owing to investigations which they have recently made and information which they have received from several provincial towns, think there is good ground for believing that the Fenian organisation which in 1867-8 was so extensive in London, and which has since that time been all but broken up, either is being or has been revived in the metropolis. Certain public-houses, which were in 1867-8 the rendezvous for Fenians, and had, between December, 1868, and March of the present year, become deserted by the members of the brotherhood, have within the last month or six weeks been extensively used by men of the same class and appearance as those who frequented them when Fenianism was rife among the lowest of the Irish population in London. The authorities are also said to be aware that a considerable quantity of small-arms is in possession of a number of suspected Fenians resident in London; and that a Fenian agent is, or has been, negotiating the purchase of arms in Birmingham, but whether for export to Ireland or distribution among the members of the Fenian brotherhood in England is not known. At the Bishop Auckland Petty Sessions, on Monday, John McMalon, Patrick Keene, Patrick O'Leary, and Owen McDaniel, were brought up on remand, charged with being connected with the Fenian movement. The prisoners were apprehended at Witton Park, where they were found armed with revolvers, and on search being made at the house of McDaniel two more revolvers were found: also the laws and rules of the Fenian Society, with a list of the members residing in Witton Park and neighbourhood, and other documents. The prisoners were remanded for a week. It is rumoured that the case is in the hands of the Government, and other arrests are likely to be made. It is said some members of the conspiracy have turned Queen's evidence.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, with their Royal Highnesses Princesses Louise and Beatrice and Prince Leopold, attended by the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, will, it is understood, leave Osborne on Wednesday next, and return to Windsor Castle.

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA has celebrated the sixteenth anniversary of his marriage by granting a pardon to all persons who have offended against the press laws.

THE KING OF ITALY has been suffering from an attack of scarlatina. He is better, however; and the doctors anticipate that he will be quite well in a few days.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE took the chair, on Tuesday, at an adjourned meeting of the governors of Christ's Hospital, at which the proposed removal of the institution into the country was pronounced against by a majority of 71 against 57.

EARL RUSSELL is announced to take the chair at the annual meeting of the British and Foreign School Society, to be held at the society's house, Borough-road, on Monday, May 9.

MR. BERNAL OSBORNE was, on Monday, declared duly elected for the city of Waterford, the Judge having decided against the petitioners on all the grounds relied upon, and condemned them to pay the costs.

GENERAL M'MURDO, C.B., has been appointed to succeed General Italy in command of the Peshawar division of the Indian army.

THE DUCHY OF CORNWALL has disposed of its fishery rights in the river Tamar to the Duke of Bedford for £2000.

THE COUNTIES OF MEATH AND WESTMEATH, and parts of Sligo, Longford, Roscommon, and King's County, have been placed under the provisions of the recently-passed Peace Preservation Act.

LADY FRANKLIN arrived at Panama on the 28th ult., having made the trip from England via the Strait of Magellan, and left per Colorado on the 29th ult. The late discoveries made by Captain Hall in the Arctic regions lend her, it is said, to seek an interview with him.

HENLEY REGATTA has been fixed for Thursday, June 30, and Friday, July 1.

A GREAT FIRE has occurred in Manila, and the damage done is estimated at a million and a half of dollars.

A LARGER NUMBER OF EMIGRANTS left the Mersey for Canada and the United States last week than in any week for many years past.

AN IRONMONGER NAMED MELLARD has been fined, at Birmingham, £20 for having stored on his premises 2200 lb. of gunpowder.

COLONEL HICKIE has addressed the electors of Mallow. He describes his political principles as those of an advanced Liberal.

TWO CHILDREN WERE BURNED TO DEATH, and two others injured, at Lytham, last Saturday, by a fire which they made of straw and shavings in a pigsty.

KEBLE COLLEGE WILL BE OPENED IN JUNE; and it is possible that Lord Salisbury, the Chancellor of the University of Oxford, will be invited to perform that ceremony.

THE HALFPENNY POSTAGE-STAMP on newspapers and book packets will come into operation on Oct. 1 next.

THE BIRTHDAY OF LORD BYRON was celebrated by a banquet in New York, on the 25th inst., and a large number of persons, including several clergymen, were present. Strong allusions to Mrs. Stowe were made by some of the speakers.

THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY, it is stated, do not intend to appoint a professional agent to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Spofforth. Arrangements have, however, been made, by which all correspondence respecting election matters will be conducted by Mr. J. E. Gort, late member for Cambridge.

THE MISSING STEAM-SHIPS, City of Brussels and Venezuelan, have both reached port in safety, though disabled, the former having arrived at Liverpool and the latter at New York.

SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM was visited during Easter week by 48,053 persons—the average during corresponding weeks of former years being 28,347. Since the opening of the museum 9,372,971 visitors have inspected its contents.

THE EDITOR OF A LIBERAL JOURNAL published in Cork has received a letter threatening his life as a punishment for the manner in which he has maligned and libelled his countrymen.

A SAD ACCIDENT is reported from Bombay. A picnic party, which included several officers, was returning home in an omnibus when the vehicle upset against the parapet of a deep well. Three ladies were killed on the spot, and all the other persons were injured.

CHRISTIAN LIEB, a German, was on Monday found guilty at the Middlesex Sessions of having robbed a young woman whom he had induced to leave her home under promise of marriage. The prosecutrix entreated the Judge to have mercy on her betrayer, and he was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

CAPTAIN EYRE, of the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamer Bombay, who is now in London, is, it is stated, about to memorialise the Board of Trade to revise the sentence of suspension of his certificate for six months which was passed by the court of inquiry into the circumstances attending the collision with the Onedra.

THE TREASURY RETURNS. The total receipts into the Exchequer from April 1 to April 23 were £3,742,043, as compared with £4,306,066 in the corresponding period of last year. The expenditure to the same date amounted to £6,601,739, of which £5,667,653 was for interest on the National Debt. The balance in the Bank of England was £3,129,822.

AN INCENDIARY FIRE took place, last Saturday evening, on the farm of Mr. James Hobson, of Great Glen, near Leicester. A hay-stack, bean-stack, two barns, stables, calf-house, piggeries, winnowing and thrashing machines, and other farm implements, were wholly destroyed. The homestead narrowly escaped. The damage is estimated at about £2000.

A LARGE AND ENTHUSIASTIC PUBLIC MEETING, called by the Mayor, in accordance with a numerous requisition, was held, on Tuesday night, at Newcastle-on-Tyne. Speeches in favour of the Land Bill and Mr. Gladstone's Government were made by Mr. Joseph Cowen, jun., Dr. Rutherford, the Rev. Mr. Street, and others; and a resolution and a petition in favour of the Land Bill were passed amidst great cheering.

SEVERAL TRADESMEN IN LIVERPOOL have been fined the mitigated penalty of £5 and costs for not having taken out a license for each of the horses they used, such requirement being in compliance with the provisions of the new Act relating to assessed taxes and excise licenses, which came into operation on Jan. 1 last.

A THIN SLIP OF WOOD, 3 ft. long, painted blue, was picked up at Ferran Porth, on the north coast of Cornwall, on Sunday, and in large letters cut in the wood was "City of Boston is sinking. Feb. 11." Another sentence, commencing with the letter "M," appears to have been begun, but the board is broken off. The authenticity of this sea-wail is doubted.

THE DIRECTORS OF THE GREAT EASTERN STEAM-SHIP COMPANY have concluded an agreement with the Telegraph Construction Company, whereby the latter have chartered the ship for five years at a payment of £20,000 per annum. This will yield a dividend of twenty per cent during that period. The great ship is expected in this country by the first week in June.

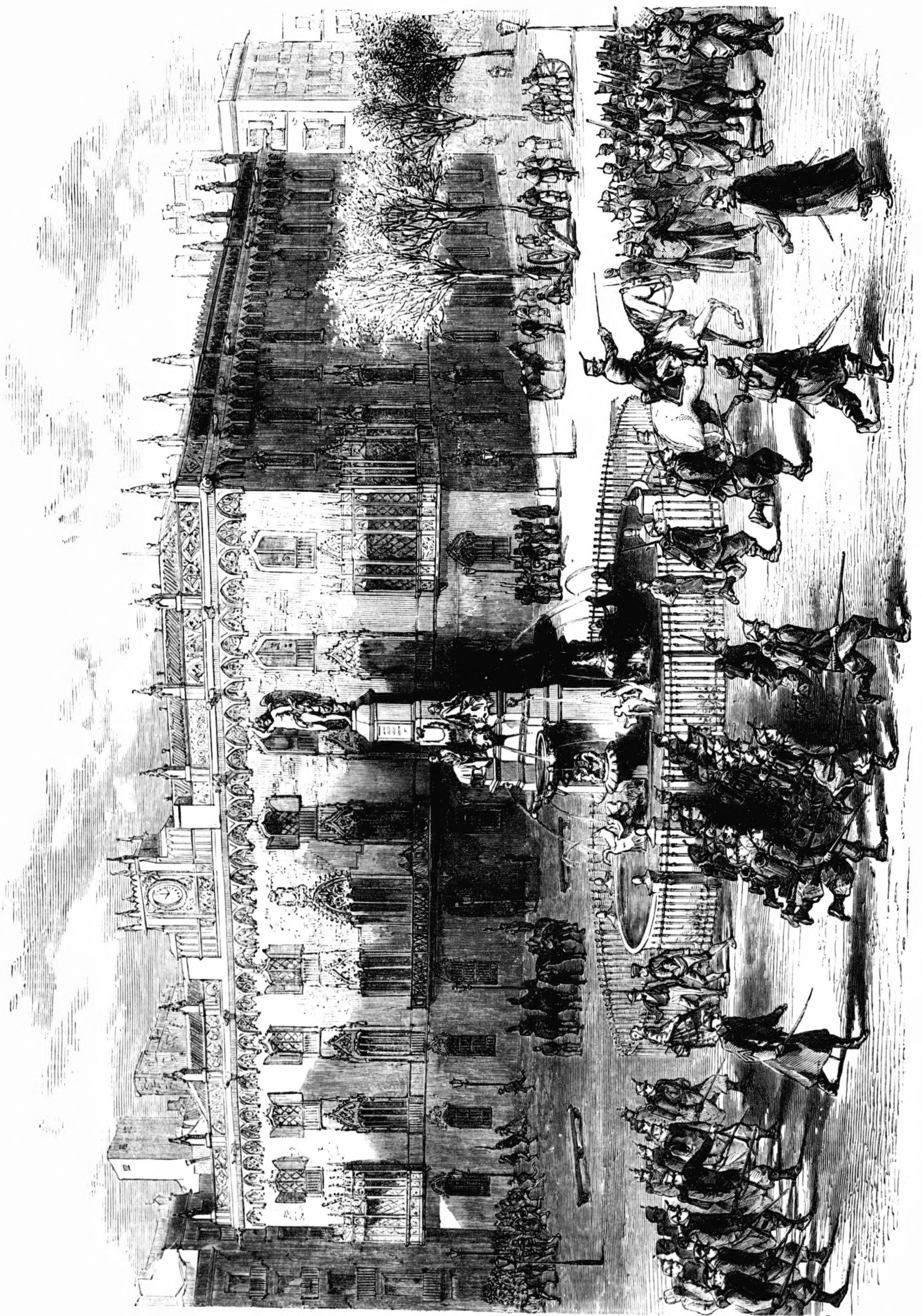
MISS WARBURTON, a governess in the service of Mr. F. C. Burnand, a short time ago sued the Midland Railway Company for damages, and obtained a verdict for £500. The plaintiff while travelling upon the Midland line, fell out of the carriage near Hendon, and received serious injuries. Last Saturday counsel for the company moved in the Court of Queen's Bench for a new trial on the ground that the amount of compensation given by the jury was excessive. The Court, however, refused the rule.

PRICE EDWARDS, a barber, was charged at the Liverpool Police Court on Monday, with cutting the throat of Private McConville, of the 4th Dragon Guards, at the barracks in Rupert-lane. Edwards was visiting the barracks last Saturday, and offered to shave McConville, and while doing so inflicted a serious gash on the soldier's throat. The barber took to flight, but was arrested by the sentry. He pleaded that he had committed the act for "a lark." He was remanded.

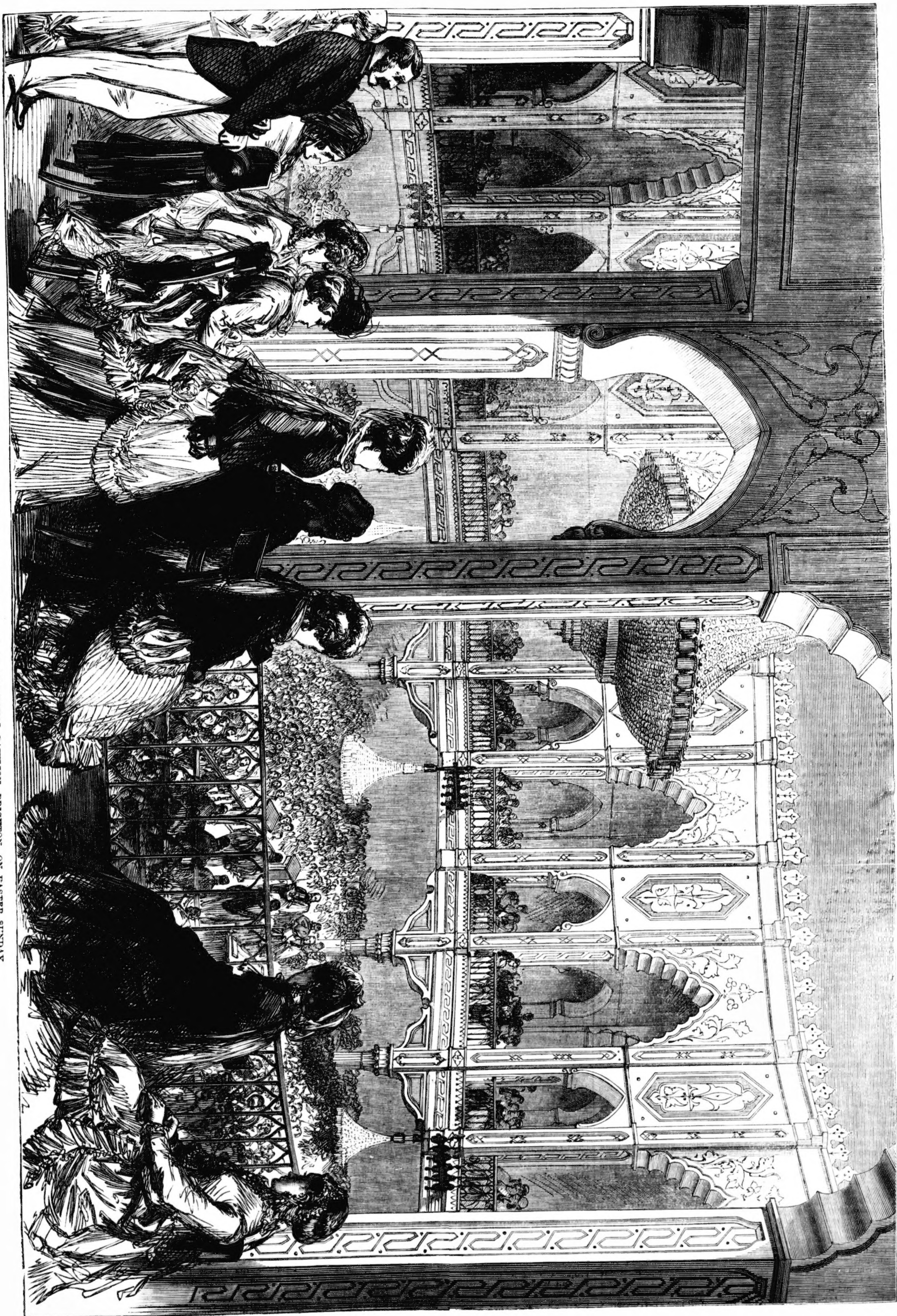
MR. JOSHUA FIELDEN, M.P., and his two brothers have addressed a letter to the Todmorden board of guardians offering to hand over to trustees of their own choice £3000 for the erection of cottage hospitals for the use of the poor and infirm, and not as tests of destitution. Amongst other things, they state that they feel satisfied if a workhouse be erected as proposed the poor-rates will be increased in amount, and the result will be more paupers, more vagrants, more crime, and more policemen.

MR. JOHN HEWITT, who held a farm under Sir Charles Anderson, Bart., at Lea, died a few days ago from the effects of poison. At the inquest it was stated that shortly before his death he said, "I cannot bear it any longer; these rabbits have killed me." Frequently he would look out of his window and say, "I have sown my corn, but they'll eat it all again." Last year, it was stated, Mr. Hewitt had sown some of his fields twice over, and, notwithstanding, one field of sixteen acres yielded only six quarters.

WHILE THE BARQUE ARABELLA was on her passage home from Trinidad a shark was observed following the vessel. The shark-hook was immediately baited and thrown over the side and the shark was caught. As usual in such cases, the mate essayed to pass a hitch over the back of the animal, when he fell overboard, and in his fall caught hold of the back of the shark. The master sprang overboard to the assistance of the mate, and in the midst of the struggle which ensued the shark got clear of the hook; but fortunately the master and mate were promptly drawn on board, or the shark might have had the best of the business.



THE CONSCRIPTION RIOTS IN CATALONIA : TROOPS CLEARING GOVERNMENT SQUARE, BARCELONA.—SEE PAGE 281.



RELIGIOUS SERVICE FOR VOLUNTEERS IN THE DOME OF THE ROYAL PAVILION, BRIGHTON, ON EASTER SUNDAY.

VOLUNTEER RELIGIOUS SERVICE AT BRIGHTON ON EASTER SUNDAY.

THERE was one feature of the volunteer muster at Brighton this year which has, perhaps, received less notice in the accounts of the Easter Monday Review than it merits. We allude to the religious services on Easter Sunday in the dome of the Royal Pavilion, organised by Lieutenant-Colonel Hannington and the officers of the administrative brigade of the Sussex Artillery Volunteers. The morning service commenced at eleven o'clock, and was intended for the convenience of those corps who formed a church parade, as well as for that of all volunteers in uniform. The place selected, which is capable of holding 3000 persons, was completely filled by an earnest and attentive audience. This service was conducted by the Rev. H. M. Wagner, Vicar of Brighton, who preached an appropriate sermon. In the evening several hymns suitable to the occasion were sung, the Scriptures were read, and a discourse was delivered by the Rev. H. Quick on the theme, "Soldiers of Christ." These services were markedly successful, and will no doubt be repeated whenever the volunteers again visit Brighton for their annual field day.

THE LOUNGER.

THERE is no pleasanter holiday-trip than a run over to Boulogne. The travelling is perfect. An express-train from Charing-cross takes you to Folkestone in two hours; the steam-boat to Boulogne, if the weather be propitious, in about two more. On Easter Monday, in five hours from the time at which I left my domicile in South Belgravia, or Pimlico, as it is vulgarly called, I was alongside Boulogne quay. "But Boulogne is now an English town. Why should you go there?" may be asked. To which I reply, Boulogne is not an English town. Indeed, I will venture to say that if any reader of mine who has never been abroad will make this trip, his first feeling will be, when he lands, or even before, one of astonishment that in so short a time he has been brought to a place so utterly different from his own country. For example, those women in short petticoats, wooden clogs, and white nightcaps, who have poured on to the deck, and are seizing the baggage and gabbling and cackling so unintelligibly, are certainly not English; nor are the smart douaniers and the gendarmes on the shore English, nor the handsome houses which line the quay, nor the signboards, nor, indeed, anything that we see. I have been to Boulogne many times, but still it always seems to me strange that a voyage of only two hours or thereabouts should land me in a scene so very different from that which I have just left; and I should certainly advise all who can to make this or some similar trip into France. It will do them good in many ways—that is, if they go with their eyes open, or, in other words, know "how to observe." A very valuable bit of knowledge, by-the-way, is that of knowing how to observe, if we would but cultivate it. Of course a young man, on his first visit to France, sees much that he dislikes; but he will, if he but look with an unprejudiced eye, see much which must strike him as commendable. Easter Monday is a holiday in France, as it is here; and, as in London, so in Boulogne, the people, male and female, were in holiday costume, and all evidently on pleasure bent. And one thing that specially strikes the stranger is this—the women of the poorer class are all dressed pretty much alike, in a costume peculiar to their class: short petticoats, made of cotton or woollen stuff; strong ankle shoes, neckerchief bound across the breast, and white caps with broad plaited frills which, as they meet the wind, erect themselves and surround the chubby, round faces, like the aureola with which ancient painters encircled the faces of their saints. Well, now, is this commendable or not? Surely commendable; not, though, because it is a class costume, but simply because it is useful, and suitable, and inexpensive. In England, on Easter Monday, the showy, tasteless, expensive dresses of our female holiday-makers—the servant-girls, artisans' wives, and others—is to me an afflictive spectacle; simply because, as one cannot but know, the finery can be procured only by a sacrifice of things necessary to the decency, or at least to the comforts, of home. Then, again, the dresses of the French girls are suitable for the work they have to do. The holiday dress is not different in style and material to that which they wear when at work. The one is new and the other old; that is all the difference. And the consequence is that the French women when at their ordinary work, though their dresses may not be so clean as one could wish them, do not look slatternly, as our English women do when the holiday finery—all faded, and frayed, and soiled—comes to be used as an ordinary working dress. I once saw a stream of French girls pouring out of a factory; and I could not help contrasting their neat and cleanly appearance with that of the female factory hands in England, dressed, as I have seen them, in the faded holiday clothes. Thus there is something in France commendable.

Then there is the absence of drunkenness on these holiday occasions. A drunken man is rarely to be seen in the streets of a French town, a drunken French woman I never saw; and yet intoxicating liquors are very cheap and accessible. I do not think that any license is needed to sell wine, spirits, or beer in France; for I observed last week, as I had often observed before, that confectioners, grocers, and other shopkeepers, as well as the keepers of hotels, estaminets, auberges, and cafés, sell wine and even spirits over the counter; and it struck me that it is a question whether, by our license system, we really do anything to repress drunkenness. Of one thing I think we may be certain—viz., that if anybody might sell intoxicating drinks we should not have so much adulteration as we have: for this reason, the grocer or confectioner, not being entirely dependent upon the sale of intoxicating liquors for his living, is not so strongly tempted to adulterate as the publican, who is dependent for a living entirely upon the sale of liquors. This was suggested to me by an English gentleman who has lived long in France, and is worthy of the consideration of our legislators.

One thing will specially strike the man who visits France for the first time, and that is the number of soldiers about the streets. In English provincial towns you rarely see a soldier, except the volunteers or the militiamen when they are out; but in France—and, indeed, all over the Continent—soldiers swarm everywhere and at all times. This is not a pleasant fact. The stranger in France will, too, be struck when he observes how short in stature and how young most of the French soldiers are, and will at first be disposed to look upon them with something of contempt. But let him recall to his mind the history of France during the past three-quarters of a century, and this feeling will vanish; for the French armies, composed mainly of such men as he sees now walking about the streets of Boulogne, did some wonderful things in the Napoleonic wars—overthrew dynasties, toppled down thrones, and bore aloft the tricolour, and chanted the Marseillaise in every capital upon the continent of Europe; and these men whom we see here, small in stature though they be, would do equally wonderful things under such another commander, if such another were possible. Nevertheless, we cannot but hope for the time when the military element will not be so prominent a characteristic of France as it now is. "Egad!" said a friend, as he and I were looking at a troop of soldiers swinging along; "these fellows must cost France a heavy sum." "Yes," I replied; "and us, too—millions a year."

But here is something pleasanter to contemplate. On board the steamer which took me to Boulogne there were about fifty large hampers of fish—all going, I was told, to Paris. This did not surprise me, as I have long known that we export to France immense quantities of fish. It is, though, a curious fact. France has a more extensive seaboard than we have. Her fishermen are numerous and adventurous; and one would have thought that they could supply her with all the fish required. But clearly it is not so. A good deal of the fish sent to France comes from Ireland, and some from Scotland—mostly salmon that, I should think. But here is a singular fact: whilst we export a quantity of our own fish, we import large quantities from Norway and Holland. On my return voyage I saw at the stern of the steam-

boat about fifty huge hampers, and I was curious to know what they contained. At first glance they seemed to be baskets of fish, but on inquiry I found that they contained—what do my readers think? I do not believe that anybody who has not made himself acquainted with the commerce between the two countries would guess. These huge hampers, each of the capacity of five bushels at least, contained turnips and radishes; and I learned that every day during the season immense quantities of vegetables are sent to England. Here, then, we have some of the results of the much-abused French treaty. The French take our superfluous fish, and we their superfluous vegetables. We hear much inane talk about reciprocity; but here it is. True, only on a small scale, for these steamers are not intended to carry merchandise, and neither is Boulogne a mercantile port; but, *ex pede Herculem*, we judge of the statue by the foot. I think, Mr. Editor, it would really do the opponents of the French treaty good just to cross the Channel now and then; or, if that be not possible, pay a visit to our wharfs and docks. They must, though, go with their eyes open; but I am afraid that with many of them that is impossible. So much for the holidays and my little trip. I will now turn to home matters.

For a week I scarcely saw a newspaper. Newspapers were available enough, but I abstained from them purposely, and the abstinence was very refreshing. The first paper that I opened on my return to England announced the sudden death of Mr. George Henry Moore. This news, though I knew but little of Mr. Moore personally, and cared less about him as a politician, startled me, as well it might, for my memory, taking no note of that parenthesis in my political life just alluded to, recurred at once to the honourable member for Mayo, as he stood in his place in the House just before he left for Ireland, announcing to us what he intended to do after the holidays. He had been rather troublesome with his impracticable nationalistic theories; he meant, as he announced, to be more so. And now all mundane theories and plans are at an end for him. "Boust not thyself of to-morrow," says the wise man. Then I saw that good, genial, kind Lord Henniker was dead. His Lordship was long member for East Suffolk, but in 1866 was called to the Upper House as Baron Hartismere.

The order seems to have gone forth among the advocates of denominational education to stoutly deny that any religious difficulty whatever exists in the matter of our proposed national schools. Meetings of schoolmasters—all, or nearly all, of whom, by-the-by, represent existing denominational schools—have been held, at which we are assured they experience no difficulty in giving religious instruction, and that parents belonging to other denominations send their children to Church, and even to Roman Catholic seminaries without dread and without making any objection whatever to the instruction imparted. If this be true—though it is rather curious to find so much unanimity on the point in such discordant bodies as Evangelical Churchmen and Roman Catholics, who agree on nothing else—it only proves, what we needed neither ghost nor schoolmaster to tell us, that there are people in the world who are as indifferent about religious teaching as they are about everything else that does not affect their own personal comfort, ease, and indulgence. But it does not prove that all parents are indifferent on the matter. Moreover, I can conceive it possible that cases may exist in which parents, from confidence in individual teachers, may be willing to intrust their children to their care, though they do not concur in all the doctrines said teachers hold—when they are free to place pupils in their charge or not, as they please. Freedom of choice reconciles men to many things they would resent if compelled to endure them. The case, I suspect, will be found to be wholly changed when freedom of action is withdrawn and people are compelled not only to send their children to school but also to contribute to the support of the school and the schoolmaster, whether they approve of the teaching imparted or not. And that is precisely what the system approved by the Denominationalists would produce, and against which, if it injuriously affected themselves, they would be the first to protest. Churchmen expect, and perhaps with good reason, that in the vast majority of places they would be able to secure control over the schools to be erected under Mr. Forster's bill; and hence their ready acceptance of the bill as it stands. But suppose, which is quite possible, that in certain boroughs—in Wales, for instance, where Dissent greatly predominates—the school boards should be mainly composed of anti-Churchmen, and that they should appoint schoolmasters specially to teach that Church establishments are contrary to Scripture—and most Dissenters believe this, and are therefore bound to teach it—and that bishops, deans, chapters, and so forth are mere devices of men, if they do not have a worse origin—and that, too, is believed by most Dissenters—how would Churchmen like their position then? Would they not discover that there was a religious difficulty after all? and if, in that case, they would deem it a hardship to be compelled to pay, and to accept, the religious teaching of Dissenters, can they not understand that Dissenters, when they are in a minority, will deem it a hardship to pay for, and have to accept, the religious teaching of Churchmen? The circumstance that the Church is likely, for a time at least, to have the controlling power in school boards, particularly in rural districts, is not so petty a matter as a certain Tory contemporary of yours lately affected to think it; and the very fact that one sect is likely to have a dominating influence over the national schools constitutes in itself a religious—or, rather, a sectarian—difficulty, which will be sure to make itself felt, and that speedily too.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

The *Contemporary Review* begins a new series, and adds to its former title the words, "*and Magazine of Discussion*," an addition which, we may presume, is intended to carry with it an enlargement of the scope of the periodical. There seems also a tendency to increase the number of the articles contained in each issue; but the *Contemporary* still retains its peculiar characteristics—it is largely contributed to by clergymen, college professors, and women, and does not seem to care to be much *en rapport* with the world outside; at least in tone and colouring. In the paper on "The English Girls' Education," Miss Smedley writes with her usual ladylike irony, and is exceedingly moderate as well as intelligent. Professor Max Müller's notes, "A Chapter of Accidents in Comparative Theology," have the fault of being too elliptical—they assume too much knowledge on the part of the average reader. The Rev. J. B. Mayor, upon Mark Patison's Edition of Pope's "Essay on Man," is as full of minute observation and rapid incisive thought as usual. The paper on "Dr. Rowland Williams and His Place in Contemporary Religious Thought," is very inexact, but it is not a bad hint for another to follow. It is perfectly obvious that Dr. Rowland Williams was intellectually in a position which he could not consistently have maintained for any length of time except by an effort of the will and by the help of surrounding associations. In this respect he was not peculiar. One of the most striking features of the times consists in the number of people who, whether in religion or politics, are endeavouring to put new wine into old bottles, or to stretch words even to bursting. The best of these men take refuge, as Dr. Rowland Williams did, in work; but nobody can part with any portion of his intellectual sincerity without his *morale* suffering in the long run. Dr. Williams maintained his position, and took comfort in doing his parochial duty strenuously; but he missed the joy which he might have found in utter truthfulness. Truthfulness also brings its burdens, but it can hold its own against the world better than any other quality which could be named. Canon Westcott proposes what he calls a "Form of Confraternity suited to the Present Work of the English Church." But Auguste Comte has got into Canon Westcott's head, and his Comtist Christianity, or Christian Comtism, is not pleasant. Of course, Canon Westcott is one of the sincerest Christians now living; but he is decidedly a very muddle-headed man, and he has not made the discovery

that the whole of this Comtist scheme of society is a muddle-headed conception. His scheme of confraternity is very amusing. He does not seem to know that inspiration never stays inside of institutions. It wants a person, not an essay, to do work of this kind, otherwise your machinery is rotten as soon as it is in action. One thing Canon Westcott has fairly caught from Comte—namely, his immense unconscious, sententious, placid dogmatism. This scheme of confraternity is proposed partly as a remedy for the "obtrusive" individualism of modern times. But where is this obtrusive individualism? What most people see—people who are not blinded by the conceit of phalanstery-making and controlling others—and see pretty plainly, is that in the cases where individualism appears obtrusive it is chiefly because it is lonely. The world we live in is nearly as smooth as flagstones, and everybody's object appears to be, to be and to do just as everybody else does and is. Of course, under these circumstances, an exception is obtrusive. The remainder of the magazine is very good; but, with the exclusion of Miss Smedley's article, and perhaps Mr. Goodbrand's, there is no moving life-blood in the writing. This is pretty much the case in all magazines, indeed; there is plenty of talent and accomplishment, but where is the "fire of the living" in which first principles burst into flame and brand-new phrases are stamped for currency?

The *Fortnightly* is one of the least-lively numbers I have ever seen of that admirable periodical. The editor, in a paper on "Vauvenargues," continues his striking and thoughtful series of essays on distinguished Frenchmen. The "Woman of Business" is concluded. There is some striking poetry, of which Mr. George Meredith and Mr. Robinson Ellis are the contributors; and Mr. F. T. Palgrave writes a very readable paper, the most entertaining in the number, on the "Practical Laws of Decorative Art." I once heard it gravely maintained that Art was impossible to a polygamist. I did not say anything about the Alhambra at the time, or about the Japanese; but probably Mr. Palgrave's comment on the exquisite decorative art of the latter will suggest to anybody who holds that a polygamist cannot be an artist that every mere theory is liable to be upset by one fact more. Mr. Palgrave says of the art of the Japanese that "In general it has an instinctive truth of colour which is supreme and unrivalled, whilst in beauty and appropriateness of form it stands next to the Greek art." Half a crown laid out in cheap Japanese boxes or screens will do more to further the study of decorative art than the most expensive copies from Raphael's arabesques or the designs of the Alhambra. . . . The Japanese are, probably, within certain limits, the only genuine artist race now existing on the globe." This may be all wrong; but, meanwhile, the Japanese are systematic polygamists. Their polygamy is detestable, but their decorative art is good.

The *Leisure Hour* has, among other good matter, a capital paper about holidays. The picture to it is also good. There is a poor working man of South Kensington carrying a crying child, and also a parcel of provisions. The wife is holding a baby, and there are besides two little girls and a boy, all looking dragged, moiled, stupid, and wornout. Everything is very natural, and the long flat feet are particularly good.

In *Once a Week* much praise is due to the small illustrations to "The Mortimers." The guess which I made in a previous Number about the origin of the famous quotation of running and reading at the same time is confirmed by a correspondent. "An Occasional Note about a Future Life for Animals" is interesting; but how about rattlesnakes, tapeworms, domestic vermin, and entozoa, bred from under-done pork? Are they to be immortal?

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

"M.P.," the new comedy at the PRINCE OF WALES'S, has quite as much right to be considered a success as any of Mr. Robertson's pretty plays. Indeed, in my humble opinion, it contains far better "talk" than any of its predecessors. There is not so much striving after effect—no such strong determination in it to be sharp at all risks. As an effort of conversational power, "M.P." is to be highly commended. It contains humour, often wit, some common sense, happy satire, and occasional touches of real poetry. But it will not grieve many people to hear that "M.P." is no play. The story is childishly simple; and, contrary to his usual practice, Mr. Robertson has hardly cared to bring down his curtain on a dramatic point. So long as the author can bring the two pairs of lovers together—one couple prettily quarrelling, the other couple "spoony" in orthodox sentimental fashion; so long as he can put into the mouth of a thoroughbred old gentleman such noble sentiments as Thackeray would have loved; so long as Mr. Robertson can introduce a vulgar shoddyman as a contrast to the aristocrat, he is content. The audience at the Prince of Wales's want to hear Mr. Robertson talk; to admire the brilliant cleverness, the vivacity and sparkle of Miss Marie Wilton; to praise the exquisite refinement of Mr. Hare; to congratulate the stage on the gentlemanly distinction of Mr. Bancroft; and to acknowledge what excellent help is given by Mr. Addison and his daughter and by a finished actor like Mr. Coghlan. These things acquired, the mere interest of story is a matter of secondary consideration. The acting is irreproachable, the "talk" is brilliant; and so "M.P." will sustain the well-won reputation of Mr. Robertson and take all London to see the best "all-round" acting in London. No better instance of the fallacy of Mr. Byron's argument about first-night criticisms can be given than a first night at the Prince of Wales's. In a well-conducted theatre, rehearsals are matters of vital importance, and stage-management is an art conscientiously studied. On the first night of "M.P.," the actors were letter-perfect, and there was not a hitch in the business. Indeed, the play went so smoothly that one might have thought that it had been played a hundred nights before. Mrs. Bancroft was sensible enough not to produce "M.P." till it was ready, and so ruin its chance of success. And this is the common-sense view of the matter, Mr. Byron.

I gathered from the provincial criticisms that "Barwise's Book," by Mr. Craven, was not good. I find out it is so, now that I have seen this "rustic comedy" at the HAYMARKET. It is a hopelessly stupid piece, and really does not possess a telling point. Mr. Craven has hitherto understood pathos, and his dialogue is generally good. But "Barwise's Book" contains neither pathos nor fun, and the dialogue is simply weak. The play is very strongly cast, but Mr. Sothern and Mrs. Frank Matthews can do nothing with the comic business; Mr. and Mrs. Kendal can only do their best for the love scenes; while Mr. Compton and Mr. Chippendale are given characters far beneath their professional dignity. Mr. Compton seems to be a martyr to bad parts; and let me take this opportunity of regretting that Manchester intends to steal from us this excellent actor. Will any one solve for me a mystery? Is Mr. Sothern supposed to be a gentleman or not? The programme says "gentleman by profession." In the second act, I grant, Mr. Sothern dresses in perfect taste, and like a gentleman; but oh! in the first act, did anyone see such a get-up except in a music-hall? That green scarf and light coat would make a sensation in the park, I fancy. If anyone wants to see how beautifully plays are mounted in these days, I would advise a visit to the Haymarket, notwithstanding all I have said about "Barwise's Book." The village exterior and the old provincial town interior, by Mr. O'Connor, are simply perfect. I have seldom seen stage pictures so beautiful.

I am sorry—indeed, the whole theatrical world is sorry—that Miss Oliver leaves the ROYALTY, which has been excellently managed during her reign. The last little piece produced under the Oliver régime is a happy edition of Maddison Morton. "Little Mother," the new two-act play, contains all the celebrated farce-writer's fun, with a touch of pathos for which I was not prepared. Indeed, the author has not so thoroughly distinguished himself since "Woodcock's Little Game," the funniest piece, in my humble opinion, that has been produced these ten years. "Little Mother" is extremely well acted, Miss

Literature.

Oliver playing with such point and freshness that it will be a thousand pities if giving up management means giving up the stage altogether. Miss Oliver cannot be spared. Everyone is on her side, and she must not go.

If I am to choose between the two bouffé operas, I must say that I like the "Princess de Trebizonde" (Offenbach) at the Gaiety better than the "Petit Faust" (Hervé) at the Lyceum. Both operas are far too long, three dreary acts of nonsense of this kind being too much for human endurance. But I carried away with me more pretty tunes from the Gaiety than from the Lyceum. The only funny thing in "Little Faust" is the Valse Song (and this was a thousand times better acted and sung at the Charing Cross a few weeks ago), while from the Gaiety I can already hum the "Legend of Rustum," the temptation tune, the march of the huntsmen, the chorus of pages, and remember scraps of the toothache song. Besides, Mr. Toole is, of course, far funnier than Mr. Odell (who is nasty enough to wear petticoats cut half-way up the leg), and the Lyceum troupe does not contain any singers capable of competing with Miss Lashby or Miss Tremaine. The two foreigners, Mlle. Debreux and M. Marius, carry off the Lyceum laurels, though a little Miss Lee runs them very hard for the first prize for cleverness. Both operas are gorgeously mounted; but there is most taste displayed at the Gaiety. Talking about taste reminds me that the Lyceum libretto is full of cheap advertisements of sewing-machines, corn-flour, soothing syrup, and the like. Such "dodges" as these are unjustifiable, unworthy of a theatre like the Lyceum, and, not to put too fine a point upon it, in extremely bad taste.

Most people are now agreed that "Frou-Frou" was not worth all the fuss it has occasioned. A mere translation of such a play is absurd, as anyone might have told Mrs. Wood or Mr. Liston. There are good points in the play which might well have been worked into an English comedy. I cannot indorse all the folly which has been written about the immorality of the work. It strikes me that people who write leading articles on such topics should first study their subjects. Frou-Frou is not immoral; she is, except in the third act, over-sentimental and desperately dull. The play is not well acted either in King-street or Wych-street; but the dresses at Mrs. Wood's theatre are so gorgeous that a visit to "Frou-Frou" will save fashionable milliners a trip to Paris. Those who have read "Frou-Frou" are aware that the heroine must be enacted by an artist of strange versatility—lighthearted one moment, tragic the next. Miss Nelly Moore would have played Frou-Frou to perfection, and I almost see Miss Neilson in the character. But then the Henri de Sartorys! Mr. Barton Hill, the American young Marlow! Well, never mind; Jupiter has spoken.

I should like very much to say something about the French plays at the PRINCESS'S, where already I have spent several enjoyable evenings. Fanny "Tartuffe" with Plessy, and "Les Vieux Garçons" with Lafont! But there, Mr. Editor, I will be merciful. To tell you everything I have seen this Easter would be to ask you for far more than my proper share of your valuable space.

The Easter extravaganza at the Crystal Palace, written by Mr. Harry Lemon, and entitled "Cinderella; or, Prince Felix and the Crystal Slipper," contains natter dialogue than the same author's pantomime openings; but Mr. Lemon exhibits considerable coolness when he makes "glitter" serve as a rhyme to "slipper." An incident from "Robinson Crusoe" is introduced to enable Mr. Fred Evans to appear in a pantomimic part, a rather important item at the Crystal Palace, where the dialogue can only be heard by a limited number of the auditory. Mr. Evans's reputation as a pantomimist will be further enhanced by his clever acting as "Thursday," heretofore known as "Friday." Miss Caroline Parkes is sufficiently sprightly as Prince Felix; Mr. T. H. Friend is amusing as Dandini; and Cinderella, described on the programme as "an ornament of the fire-stove," is vocally illustrated by Miss Annie Thirlwall. A mock bull-fight—homogeneous to the travesties at the Strand and Vaudeville Theatres—occurs in the last scene. The effect of the Vauvau ballet is chromatically brilliant, and Mr. Fenton's scenery is showy.

THE CLERGY AND THE PEOPLE.—A remarkable letter, with the above title, by a clergyman of the Establishment, has recently appeared in the *Birmingham Daily Post*, which we subjoin:—"I believe we (the clergy of the Church of England), as a body, have made a great mistake, though it has been with the best of intentions. I have been for some time seriously reflecting upon the anomalous position we occupy in relation to the people; and I have come to the conclusion, forced upon me by the restless logic of facts, that, whatever may be our other distinctive qualifications, we have not been, and are not yet, able 'to discern the signs of the times.' We are reminded of a similar state of things by the Prophet Isaiah, in which the Lord's watchmen are called 'blind,' 'ignorant,' and 'dumb dogs'; looking all 'to their own way,' every one for his gain.' If the truth must be told, the disease has been chronic with us, and only presents itself in another phase at the present crisis; for can any one of our body deny the truth of the charge brought against us by Mr. Bright that, during the long and sanguinary wars which have so desolated our country in this and the preceding century, we, the messengers of peace and excellence, never once lifted up our voice against the national iniquity. The clergy must, from the nature of their education, have known that all wars were diametrically opposed to the spirit and teaching of that religion of which they claim to be the accredited expounders. Yet they made no sign, except, alas! to encourage the doing of that which they knew to be offensive in the sight of Heaven. Policy and expediency have ever been pleaded in justification of the worst of crimes (e.g., the disgraceful cruelties in Jamaica); but the clergyman must refuse to admit these excuses. He takes his stand upon the New Testament, and no earthly consideration should induce him to ignore its heavenly light or compromise its most palpable requirements. Now, the glorious message of the Gospel is 'Peace on earth and goodwill towards men'; and that message it is the peculiar and distinguishing mission of every clergyman to declare, in the name and after the example of his Divine Master; and especially is he called upon to declare that message when the peace of nations is threatened, and men, made in the image of God, are preparing to shed each other's blood in order to gratify the ambition of their proud and selfish rulers. Yet, who ever heard of a clergyman at such a time stepping in to denounce, in the name of Christianity, the impious arbitrations of the sword? On the contrary, have they not been among the foremost of those who have urged upon their fellow-countrymen the sacred duty of immolating themselves upon the altar of their country, and who have invested the carnage of the battle-field with a false and delusive glory? I fear in all this we have not been found faithful."

A FEVER-STRIKEN TOWN.—Dr. Buchanan, a Government Inspector sent down by the medical department of the Privy Council, has been engaged during the past week in making a sanitary inspection of the town of Whitehaven. Attention had been directed to the high rate of mortality in the town, and inquiry showed that, during the last four months, there had been, out of a population of 19,000 people, between 360 and 370 cases of typhus fever, and one patient out of every six had died. The medical officer of the local board of trustees, on being called upon to report on this sad state of affairs, attributed the frequent recurrence of fever at Whitehaven to overcrowding and defective drainage. Out of 4388 inhabited houses, 2500 had no drainage except the surface. He stated that he had urged upon the board the absolute necessity of enforcing a proper and efficient system of household drainage; some of his suggestions had been adopted, and some had not. Dr. Buchanan made a personal inspection of the town, which occupied him three or four days. The effect produced upon his mind by this inspection was that, after he had been in the town a few hours, he telegraphed to the Privy Council that Whitehaven, infected and overcrowded, was not a fit place for the Cumberland militia to congregate in for their annual periodical training. In ordinary course the militia, numbering with "camp-followers" 1000 strong, would have assembled at Whitehaven this week; but the Adjutant, Captain Morris Fawcett, has issued a notice, by order of the Secretary for War, commanding the former summons, and announcing that the Cumberland militia are not to assemble this year. They will, however, receive their usual bonus.

THE EDUCATION QUESTION.—A conference of schoolmasters, convened by the Education Union, held at Birmingham last Saturday, discussed the "religious difficulty," and teachers of Roman Catholic, Wesleyan, and Church schools concurred that they had rarely, if ever, met with any such difficulty. The teacher of the Oratory School at Edgbaston (Roman Catholic) said that twenty Protestant boys were sent to his school and received Catholic instruction; yet the parents did not object; a Tunstall teacher spoke of Dissenters' children winning prizes for their knowledge of the Church catechism; and the teacher of a village school said all the leading Dissenters in the neighbourhood had for years sent their children to his Sunday school. The meeting decided that there was practically no religious difficulty; that the schoolmaster was the proper teacher of religious truth in the school, and that his authority would be weakened by not teaching it; and that a time-table conscience clause was impracticable.

The Population of an Old Pear-Tree; or, Stories of Insect Life.

From the French of E. VAN BRUYSEL. Edited by the Author of "The Heir of Redclyffe." London: Macmillan and Co.

The leading title of this book, though quaint, would sufficiently indicate both its subject and object, even though the second title, "Stories of Insect Life," had not been added. There must be thousands of persons who have watched, without understanding, or perhaps seeking to understand, the action and life of the population of pear-trees, young and old; but we feel certain that, after reading this book, no one will view that life and that action with indifference—to dispel which is precisely the object the author and all expositors of natural phenomena have in view. It is needless to add that Miss Yonge has done her part of editing successfully; but we may state that the book has been embellished with numerous illustrations by Becker, which add greatly to its value; that it is got up in the style of elegant neatness characteristic of the works issued by Messrs. Macmillan; and that we can honestly commend it in every respect.

Imagination and Fancy; or, Selections from the English Poets, Illustrative of those First Requisites of their Art: with Markings of the Best Passages, Critical Notices of the Writers, and an Essay in Answer to the Question, "What is Poetry." By LEIGH HUNT. Fourth Edition. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

To enable the reading public to become familiar with any work produced by Leigh Hunt is about the best service a publisher can render them; and, therefore, we are glad to welcome this neat and economical re-issue of that genial author's "Imagination and Fancy," which ought—and evidently is—valued both for the beauty of the selected passages from the English poets, and for Hunt's own notes and essay. This work, as most readers probably know, is one of a series Hunt contemplated, but of which ill-health hindered his completing more than one other—viz., "Wit and Humour." The others were to have embraced "The Poetry of Action and Passion," "The Poetry of Contemplation," and "The Poetry of Song." It will ever, we are sure, be matter of regret that so little of so excellent a design was accomplished. But for what was achieved we are grateful, and thank the publishers for this re-issue of a truly pleasing and instructive volume.

The Dictionary of Chronology; or, Historical and Statistical Register. Compiled and Edited by WILLIAM HENRY OVERALL, F.S.A., Librarian to the Corporation of the City of London. London: William Tegg.

This is another of those valuable, because useful, books of reference of which not a few have appeared since Haydn compiled his admirable "Dictionary of Dates." This volume is the production of the City Librarian, whose position, daily labours, and opportunities qualify him in an especial manner for such work. It is founded on an older book, "Tegg's Chronology," which Mr. Overall had been requested to revise, but which has been almost entirely reconstructed, and is now very complete and comprehensive. It will be particularly interesting to City men, as considerable care has been taken with the history of London, of the London companies, and other matters connected with the specially commercial portion of the metropolis. So far as we have been able to see on a careful (though necessarily, considering the character and size of the volume, an imperfect) examination of the book, the information collected is at once extensive, minute, and accurate. We are sure "The Dictionary of Chronology" will prove a welcome addition to the library of the student of history, of statistics, and of social institutions.

How to Cook Puddings in Two Hundred Different Ways. By GEORGINA HILL. London: Routledge and Sons.

Puddings are indispensable institutions in all households graced with children; and even adults, as a rule, do not disdain "sweets" and "pastry" after more substantial dinner elements. It consequently follows that the modes of their preparation are matters of no small moment; and though it is probable that none save culinary chiefs on a large scale, if even they, will care to master the details of two hundred distinct processes, the instructions contained in this little sixteenpenny handbook will be found of very great service to all who have occasion to prepare puddings, particularly housewives who are their own cooks, and cooks who have to produce dinners for the home circle.

NEW NOVELS.

For Richer, for Poorer. By HOLME LEE, Author of "Sylvan Holt's Daughter," &c. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

No Appeal A Novel. London: Longmans and Co.

It is hard to be but even a little discontented with one of Holme Lee's books, when, besides "Sylvan Holt's Daughter," we remember such capital stories as "Against Wind and Tide," and "Basil Godfrey's Caprice." But in most readers a little, and perhaps more than a little, discontent will be excited by much of "For Richer, for Poorer." It may be taken for certain that Holme Lee is quite aware of this, and that she could place her paper-knife on the precise page where interest dies out for a long time, and dulness sets in with an intolerable hatred of anything in the shape of relief. Indeed, the first volume winds up with the following warning:—"To readers whose interest in hero and heroine ends when the wooing is over and the wedding is done, we may here bid good-by. To the graver sort, who deem the joys and sorrows of after-life as worthy of sympathy as the smiles and tears of youth, we offer the second part of this story of a good man and his helpmate." This is "all very fine." Doubtless there is not, and ought not to be, any objection to after-life succeeding to youth in fiction, just as it has a knack of doing in life; although it may fairly be doubted if artists would be right in *always* choosing trials and troubles for their canvas or their foolscap. But there is a decided objection to describing "after-life" as a long series of parochial squabbles between contradictory persons proper, howlers, ranters, jumpers, and a dozen more representatives of dissatisfied classes amongst the broadest Church ever known. It is simply impossible to keep all these people distinct in the mind—their selves, their congregations, their neighbours, and what they all think and say of each other, and what they all do. And whilst the hero and heroine act as a kind of thread upon which all the heaviness is made to hang, it is impossible not to see that the handicapping is most unfair. The story, however, of "For Richer, for Poorer" is excellent. Harry Lamplugh, second son of a not over-wealthy Yorkshire gentleman, may be looked upon as the adopted son and heir of his wealthy uncle John Lamplugh, a single old man, who has made all his money in business. On every kind of estate there is some kind of incumbency—some live stock to be taken, some nuisance to be endured. And so, to please his uncle, Harry is bound to be a lawyer, and become Lord Chancellor, and to marry Alice Hern whether she will or no. The whole story may be said to commence with neither of these arrangements taking place. Harry prefers becoming a parson, and working his way up to a Bishopric, which Uncle John takes better than could have been expected; and he prefers somebody else to Alice Hern, who, by-the-way, will not have him at any price; and Uncle John immediately cuts off his annual allowance and completely disinherits him. Harry, in due time, marries his cousin, Mary Ducie, a charming girl, who has been brought up in Brittany. But, unfortunately for her, her deceased father had been Uncle John's partner, and in that capacity had been prosecuted by Uncle John for forgery, and only just escaped hanging. Hence the hostility of the old gentleman to the very name of Ducie and to all the family, although Mrs. Ducie is John's own sister. So much for the first volume. With the exception of the tediousness men-

tioned—Harry's parochial affairs and mastership of Tristram's school, &c.—the story is well worked. It will be easily guessed that Ducie died innocent; but what kind of compensation was made to his family—all about Uncle John—and all about at least a couple of dozen other people, more or less interesting—must be left for the lover of fiction to devour at length. The book abounds in good character and incident, and is certainly most lifelike. It is written with a well-proved charm of style, and has glimpses of scenery in Brittany, and amongst our own lakes and mountains, at once graceful and vivid.

"No Appeal" will probably meet with a success that may tempt the author to offer the world his name next time. The good and the bad boys occur again in its pages, continue their characteristics as men, and in other matters there is a carefulness as to absolute novelty. But, nevertheless, the reader will go through the book like a dart, and admire the probable and improbable ways in which the characters meet and part, do each other good and harm, and come to grief or happiness, as the Fates who undoubtedly preside over Fiction are pleased to direct. The scene is of the good old Devonshire pattern—the coast and a little inland. From the first it may be seen that Frank Stone (strange name for our anonymous novelist to select), the crafty and villainous son of the Squire, is bent upon seducing Fanny Merrill, daughter of an old fisherman and boatman, which he succeeds in doing, and subsequently carries her to a cottage some miles off, on pretence only of marriage. After this exploit he is equally successful in winning the hand of Mary Vining, the daughter of the country doctor, and so causing the deepest pain to the excellent Willy Fitzgerald, Mary's cousin, and old schoolfellow and friend of Frank Stone himself. To describe these events occupies, of course, many chapters, of much intrigue and incident, wherein many characters are dramatically developed, and one, as we have seen, poor Fanny Merrill, dramatically lost. These cannot be traced here; and, moreover, have less need of being traced than usual, since the story has already appeared in a monthly periodical. (Let it be here said that it bears no disjointed trace of this.) In the sequel the retribution is managed boldly and adroitly. Poor Fanny Merrill, by the most natural means in the world, becomes lady's-maid to Mary, now Mrs. Frank Stone, and the murder is very soon out to the household. Here we especially like the admirable bearing of the two women—each considering herself "betrayed," and scarcely seeing any difference between them. In the end, need it be said that when old Stone learns all his sons' iniquities, he ties up the property comfortably for his little grandson, takes to apoplexy, fits, or kindred things, and dies. Frank, too, has an unlucky tumble into the water, but is only half drowned, just living long enough to have a gleam of repentance for an altogether disgraceful life. Mary Stone, the widow, has been somewhat heartless from the beginning—that is to say, she has no loves or enthusiasms. Despite this, though, she is ultimately induced to make Fitzgerald happy; and, as accident or luck restores Fanny Merrill to her home, where there is universal forgiveness, "No Appeal" winds up with a reasonable calm after the severe storm. Fitzgerald is as fresh and hearty a fellow as Tom Thurnall, in "Two Years Ago;" and the old doctor is a capital sketch. Some passages—for instance, the London detective, who is a blockhead, and his adventures in Devonshire—have considerably extra merit; but, all through, these pages are very attractive.

GREEK BRIGANDAGE.

JOHART PACHA ON GREEK BRIGANDAGE.

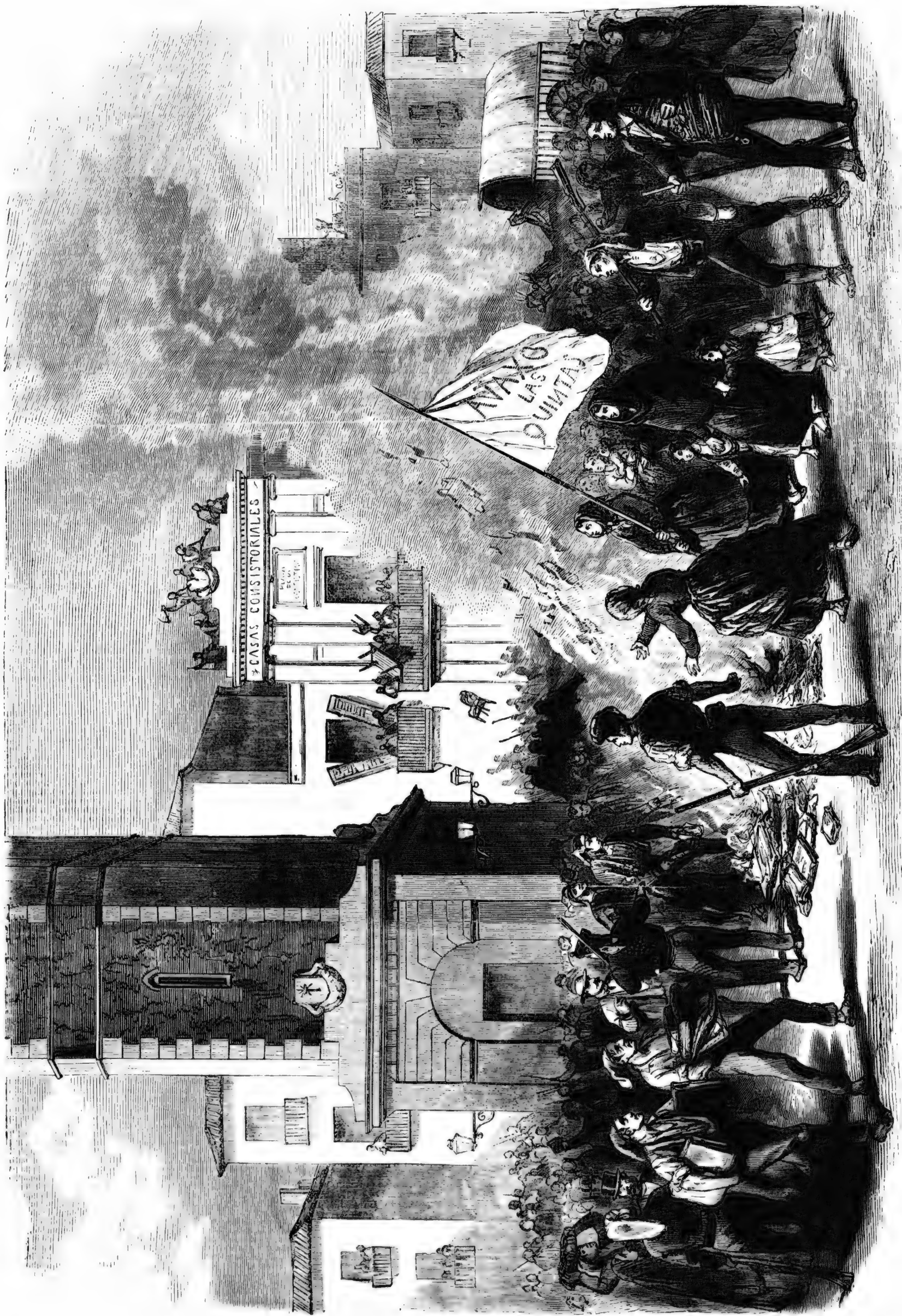
JOHART PACHA has addressed the following letter to the Times:—

At a time when public indignation is at its height concerning the horrible occurrences in Greece, it may be interesting to examine the cause of the shameful state of brigandage that exists in that little kingdom.

A brief narration of facts that occurred two years ago will tend to show how brigands are educated, and where most of them come from. During the time I was commanding the Turkish fleet off Syria, taking care of the far-famed Enosia and her companions, a Turkish line-of-battle ship arrived having on board the celebrated Spart in chief Petropoulaki and his band, who, having given themselves up in Crete, were sent away to be landed on Greek territory. As these people had been allowed to retain their arms, it became a serious question as to where they should be landed. The old chieftain told me that 600 of them were his own immediate followers, who, he said, had invaded Crete from purely patriotic motives; that they had been disappointed in the aid they had expected from without, &c. He told me also that there were with him about 700 more, who he would in no way own or be responsible for, as they were mostly liberated from the galleys and elsewhere in Greece, who, having undertaken to risk their lives in the Cretan mountains, were carefully "seen out of the country," and sent to be educated as brigands (so-called insurgents) in Crete. Almost on his knees he begged me not to allow these ruffians to land armed, and his entreaties were supported by a deputation from the town authorities, who, for the moment, dropping the insolent tone they had always used towards me, most humbly asked me not to pay off old scores by letting loose the gaol-birds armed among them. I believe it was proposed that they should return to gaol; but the patriots did not seem to appreciate the idea. The end of this was that a Greek man-of-war took them away, and, I believe, distributed them in different parts of the kingdom, thus forming the nucleus of well-trained and well-armed brigands all over Greece. Thus we account for about 700 Greek brigands. It may be asked, what could be done with these people? To that I would reply, why were they let loose?

A pamphlet, written in modern Greek by Andrew Moskonis, a cavalry Lieutenant, and published in January, 1869, contains an interesting account of the system of Greek brigandage, and gives the code of laws which govern the bands in carrying on their operations. The following are some particulars from this work with regard to the ransom of captives, which we take from *Cassell's Magazine*:—

There is a regular system of treating for the ransom of the captives. A letter is first conveyed by the robbers from the captive to his friends. This generally contains a safe conduct for the messenger who shall be chosen to go to the robber camp and treat, and a plan marking out certain places he must stop at. He travels by night on a white horse, and carries a small bell, which he rings at certain convenient and solitary situations, where he is answered by a shrill whistle if all is well. Unless the whistle is heard he must not go on; and the whole plan is so arranged that the man himself does not know where he is finally going to, so that it is impossible for the authorities to discover the brigands' haunt thereby. At a certain spot the robbers meet him, and conduct him into the presence of the chief. Then a regular bargaining is commenced. The chief names a sum, which the messenger, if he is a man of determination, and represents well the insufficient means of the captive, can often get reduced. When the bargain is finally struck, the messenger goes back for the money by a different road to that he came by, and returns with the same ceremonies and precautions. The ransom is delivered to the chief in presence of all the band, who light a taper and examine the coins to see if they are good. The captive is then brought in, loosed from his ropes, his beard cut off, and then he is kissed by every robber on the cheek, whilst they all call out several times "Kalili!" that is to say, "Begone, and be of good health." Should the robbers be besieged during the time of bargaining, both captive and ransom are destroyed. The robbers' great object is to terrify the people into bringing sufficient ransom; therefore, when it is deficient, or the captive is too poor to pay at all, the most horrible cruelties are practised. There are several such cases known to have occurred quite lately. One man, whose ransom was short of the sum named, was tortured, stripped naked, and slowly burned with a lighted fuse to such an extent that he can never recover. A boy of fifteen had his ears cut off from the roots because a hundred drachm of the ransom was wanting. But the most terrible account of all was as follows:—Three peasants had been taken prisoners. Two of them were enabled, by the sale of their oxen, to make up a sum sufficient to content the brigands. The third was a poor man, and could pay nothing. He was condemned to death. He fell at their feet praying for mercy. "The law forbids it," was the answer. Lots were drawn as to who should be the executioner, and it fell to the chief. The chief led him out, and compelled him to dig his own grave, standing over him dirt in hand, and occasionally, as the peasant hesitated over his task, sharpening it on an instrument usually employed for lighting the fires. When the grave was dug the man fainted; but recovering, and trembling all over like a fish, again knelt down, crying, "Spare me, brothers, for my children's sake!" He might as well have prayed to a stone. The chief seized his long hair in one hand, with the other male six thrusts at his neck, and finally threw the body into the grave. Then the other captives had to cast in earth and bury him. It would be impossible to believe that such atrocities could be carried on without the connivance of Government. Such has been hinted to be the case—whether with truth cannot be positively ascertained.



THE CONSCRIPTION RIOTS IN CATALONIA: DESTRUCTION OF THE CIVIL RECORDS AT BARCELONA.

THE BARCELONESE AND THE CONSCRIPTION.

WE have before remarked that if a "row" is on in Spain, the Catalans are sure to be in it, and that of all the Catalans the Barcelonense are certain to be foremost in a fight. The late disturbances on account of the conscription have proved no exception to the usual rule—the people of Catalonia, and especially of Barcelona, having been the most troublesome. They at once declared against the conscription; they, to prevent the authorities from knowing who were and who were not liable to be drawn, sacked the Casas Consistoriales—which corresponds, we suppose, to our townhall—and made a bonfire of the official books and records; a detachment of rioters outside the town attacked a train on the Barcelona and Saragossa Railroad which they supposed was bringing up troops to act against them; and they were, finally, attacked, dispersed, and driven through the streets by the soldiers: all as shown in our Engravings. These events occurred on the 3rd and 4th of April, the days appointed for the drawing, the women having taken a prominent part in the opposition to the obnoxious *quintas*. It seems to be of little use making "risings" in Spain now, however; for, whatever defects the Government of the Regent may exhibit in other matters, Marshal Prim always manages to suppress insurrections, whatever their object may be; and of course he suppressed the anti-conscription movement in Catalonia and elsewhere. This fact ought to be taken into account by the Carlists, who are said to be meditating another effort on behalf of the divine right of Bourbons to misgovern, which we daresay will share the same fate as previous efforts of the like sort.

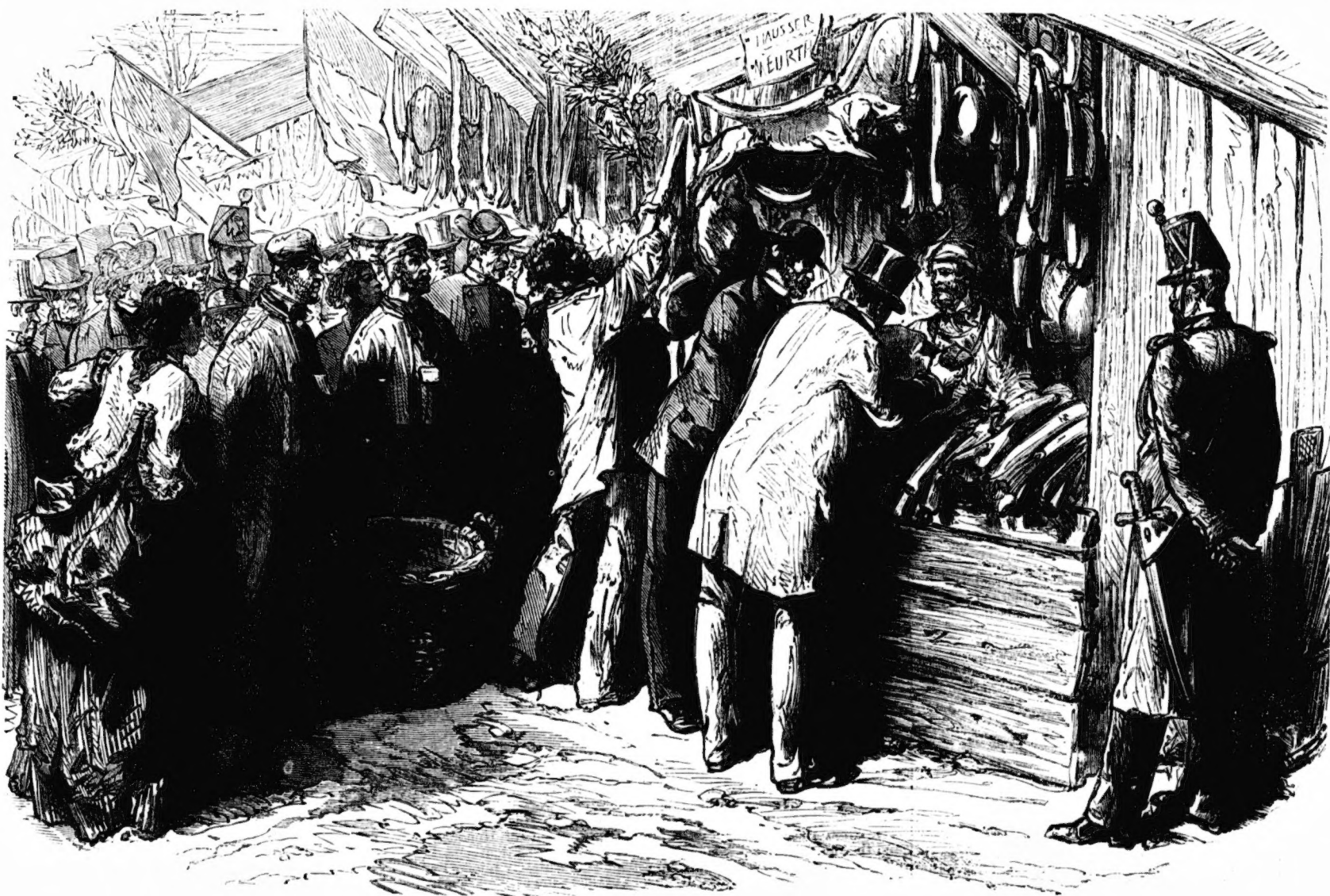
As these riots, however, have again recalled attention to Spain, and as at the present moment the military systems of foreign countries are somewhat occupying public attention in England, it may interest our readers to know the changes that have taken

place in the organisation of the Spanish army. Up to the present date, each province, with the exception of Navarre and the Vascongadas, which, by an ancient law, are exempt from the blood tax, has had to furnish a quinta, or proportion, of young men to meet the requirements of the service. This quota was fixed according to the number of inhabitants, and on an appointed day all the youths of eighteen years had to draw lots for who was to win the undesirable prize of serving their country. Those who were fortunate enough to obtain a number higher than the total demanded for the quinta were freed from the conscription; their less-favoured-by-fortune companions could only redeem themselves by paying £80 to the Government, or by procuring a substitute. The length of service was eight years, of which four were passed in the regular army and four in the reserve; that is to say, at the expiration of the first period a man could return to his family. He received no pay, but had to be prepared at any moment to join his regiment if required. The quinta signifies a fifth part, but it has been rarely found necessary to enrol so many recruits. The name, however, has been retained, and if there is a word which is more odious to a Spanish Republican than Montpensier, or Monarquia, it is that of quinta. Spain found herself, after the revolution of 1868, split up into as many factions as provinces, and the cry of the Republicans was, "Abajo los Borbones; Abajo las Quintas." At the outset the Provisional Government, to tranquillise them, intimated through Rivero that there would be liberty for all, and he concluded his speech to the mob, after throwing the Queen's picture from the window of the townhall, with "Viva la igualdad!" The fury of this party may be imagined, then, on discovering that Prim, instead of abolishing forced military service, as they had hoped, has taken the term "igualdad" in its widest sense, as henceforth every able-bodied Spaniard of twenty years, with the exception of the natives of the

privileged provinces, must serve his country either actively or in the reserve. There are naturally some limits to this law, and ecclesiastics and sons who support their aged parents are not included; but, with slight modifications, it strikes home to everyone. For the future the Cortes will annually vote the contingent necessary for the active army. Rich and poor will draw lots, and those on whom the fate falls, if unable to pay the fine, must serve for four years, at the end of which time they may return to their homes and be for two years in the first reserve: at the expiration of this period they are entirely free. The second reserve is composed of the remainder of the young men. These can marry, and are, to most intents and purposes, civilians; but, should the nation require their services, they can instantly be transferred to the first reserve, and thence fill up the vacancies in the army.

THE HAM FAIR IN PARIS.

ASSUREDLY the Parisians are far in advance of ourselves in their cosmopolitan appetite for everything eatable if it should promise to supply a new article of food in their already wide *cuisine*. Singularly enough, however, that which is one of our commonest dishes has not yet taken a very decided hold on the Parisian palate. Ham or bacon is not regarded there as sufficient alone, with bread or vegetables, for a satisfactory meal, and in the higher cookery is used mostly for a kind of garnishing or savoury accompaniment. Eggs and bacon, bacon and cabbage, or broiled ham and spinach, are not fully recognised as delicacies, and this may be accounted for by the fact that the hams sold in Paris are not always of the sort best calculated to entice the judicious eater. Many of them are of dry Bayonne curing; others are from Germany, stringy and rancid; some again lean and woody, from the ill-conditioned hogs of



THE HAM FAIR AT PARIS.

Spain. York hams have lately found their way into the market in larger quantities; but it is doubtful whether the sweet, unsmoked delicacy of the true York is altogether appreciated by the French palate. There is one institution, however, which from the earliest date has indicated the large consumption of hams and similar savoury food, even in Paris.

Once a year the ham fair has been held from time immemorial and until quite lately in the very courtyard of Notre Dame; but now that M. Haussmann's alterations have changed everything, it is celebrated on the last arch of the Canal St. Martin, amidst the verdant squares of the Boulevard Richard Lenoir. This change was necessary because of the increased importations of salt meats from England and America—not hams only, but other savoury viands, many of which have a very definite place in the Parisian regard, and especially sausages, which are always in favour. Perhaps only a tea-drinking people can fully appreciate either ham, shrimps, watercresses, or periwinkles. The Germans manage to get over the difficult deglutition of their raw rashers by swilling Baerisch beer or the lighter products of the Vienna breweries; but nothing common as beverage in Paris could mollify the effect of the rose-red ham on the French palate. It is only with the milder and more delicately-cured kinds of bacon that they could cope successfully, and their cookery is at present too much of an art and too little of a science to deal with such simple viands. However, the existence of the ham fair, and its growing importance, bid us hope that bacon will soon be added to the national bill of fare of our neighbours; and meantime there are sausages in great festoons and lying in vast piles, which are bought by careful housewives fearless of trichina; while those of Strasbourg, done up in odorous and tempting garlands, interspersed with leaves of laurel and bay, are the delight of the children, who see in the silver-leaf and gaudy-coloured paper which envelops them the materials for embellishing the toys that are the result of their visit to the booths of the fair.

In connection with this subject it is worth while to note that the French do not enjoy their food without suspicion any more than we do; but they seem to take tolerably energetic measures towards securing the purity of the articles they consume. A French journalist wandering about the "ham fair," says he suddenly became aware of a great tumult not far from him, and, turning to ascertain the cause, perceived a cart which appeared

to belong to some employés of the prefect of police, and which was fast filling with hams, sausages, and other savoury articles, amidst much laughter and plenty of "chaff." This operation came to an end, and the agents of the prefect were about to retire, when curiosity prompted the amused spectator to enter into conversation with one of them respecting this strange scene. "Sir," said this individual, with honest pride, "Paris has no idea of the services we render it. But for us the population would be decimated. You see, Sir, that in a town like this, in which you must satisfy nearly 2,000,000 appetites daily, the supply of the public need offers facilities for imposition which would lead to universal fraud, if some measures were not taken. Everything that can be eaten or drunk tempts the cupidity of adulterators. It would be well if innocuous frauds alone were perpetrated. He who adulterates coffee with chicory, chestnuts, acorns, potato, beetroot, carrot, turnip, maize, can give no one gastric fever, but some will employ ground bricks! Oil may be adulterated in thirty-eight different ways. As to this, it needs only to be remarked that Paris consumes more than a million litres of salad oil; but only 100,000 litres at most of real olive oil find their way to the capital. What is the rest made of? Truffles are made at will with yams, mushrooms, and even cork. In the lowest class of restaurants you find cats' horses', and even rats' flesh cooked. Yes, Sir, without continual supervision continual mishaps would occur. This supervision is exercised in the most varied forms. Sixty inspectors incessantly keep watch over the butchers' meat; wine-tasters are employed to judge of the beverages sold in 3000 Parisian public-houses. At the Halle seventy persons are employed solely to ascertain, by holding eggs up to a lighted candle, whether they are fresh enough for consumption. As to ourselves, Sir, we form part of the scenting-out brigade. It is our duty to discover by the smell the condition of all sorts of eatables offered for sale. We begin our work every day at eight o'clock, generally arranging not to pass over the ground already reconnoitred by our colleagues. But this we sometimes have to do, as those tradesmen whose goods have been lately overhauled are very apt to think themselves safe, and take advantage of their fancied security to make dishonest profits. In twelve months we visit 2500 establishments, and we have to bring about twenty actions a week against dishonest tradesmen. All comes under our jurisdiction—tainted meat, rotten fruit, milk adulterated with horses' brains, whiting,

&c. This is not all. We have to examine the state of the kitchen utensils in the 5800 restaurants, eating-houses, and *table d'hôtes* of the capital, otherwise verdigris would claim a yearly tribute of victims."

ART-UNION OF LONDON.

THE annual meeting of members was held on Tuesday in the Adelphi Theatre—Lord Houghton, the president, occupying the chair. Mr. Lewis Pocock, the hon. secretary, read the thirty-fourth annual report, which announced that the engraving for the ensuing year will be "Light and Darkness," from a picture by Mr. George Smith, representing a blind girl as a Scripture-reader. The Hon. Alfred Bagot and the Rev. Dr. Mortimer had been elected to fill the vacancies in the council. The subscriptions of the year had amounted to £10,710 10s. 6d., and the sum available for the purchase of works of art would be thus allotted—viz., twenty-two at £10 each, twenty at £15, ten at £20, twelve at £25, ten at £30, eight at £35, six at £40, six at £45, four at £50, two at £60, two at £75, two at £100, one at £150, and one at £200. There would also be distributed twenty bronzes of the Nelson Column, and 200 chromolithographs, by Messrs. Kell, of Birket Foster's "Bellagio-Como." Including the Parian busts, there would be 476 prizes, in addition to the work given to every member. The reserve fund now amounts to £15,466 12s. 9d. Lord Houghton, in moving the adoption of the report, observed that it touched upon every topic connected with art that had engaged attention since they last met. It very properly attached great importance to the character of the works prizeholders might select, for, considering the enormous circulation of their prints, it was necessary, for the sake of elevating the public taste and judgment, that the subject chosen should be equally high and noble in character as a work of art. Two principles ought to guide the selections—one, that the picture should be a good work of art in itself, and the other that the subject should be interesting to the community at large. But it was not always possible to obtain this combination. He had every reason to believe, however, that there would be a magnificent exhibition this year, though, owing to indisposition, one Academician, Mr. Leighton, would not be represented. Having adverted to the value of societies like this in the fostering of art, if not indeed in absolutely preserving its existence, the noble Lord expressed his satisfaction at finding that a

very successful agency had been established at Yokohama, the capital of a people famous for the exquisite beauty of their fans of old, and concluded with a feeling tribute to the memory of Mr. D. MacLise, R.A. He recalled to mind that a prizeholder had selected this artist's work, "The Sleeping Beauty," which realised for the artist only £300, but two years afterwards was sold for £1200, and probably now would fetch double that price. The same artist's two great paintings, the "Battle of Waterloo" and the "Battle of Trafalgar," were in the hands of the engraver for the purposes of this society, and he was sure the copies would be highly valued by the members. The Dean of Canterbury (Dr. Alford), one of the vice-presidents, seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously; and, after votes of thanks had been passed to Mr. Lewis Pocock and Mr. Edmund E. Antrobus, the hon. secretaries, proposed by Professor Donaldson and seconded by Mr. J. H. Butterworth, and to Mr. Benjamin Webster for the use of the theatre, the drawing for the prizes was proceeded with. The two £100 prizes fell to the lot of W. H. Booker, Nottingham, and J. Elliot, Caputa, South Australia; the £150 to A. B. Wyon, Kilburn; and the £200 to C. T. Mellick, St. John, New Brunswick. The meeting closed with the usual acknowledgments to the noble president for taking the chair.

MUSIC.

The only performance at the Royal Italian Opera which calls for notice was that of "La Traviata" last Saturday. Mdlle. Sessi personated the frail heroine of Verdi's unhealthy work, and made a fair, if not a remarkable, success. This lady takes no original view of the rôle, but is content to go through her part, singing its music as well as she can, and making the character as little objectionable as possible. As she sings very well, the result we have described was natural enough. In the first act Mdlle. Sessi obtained something like a triumph. Everybody knows what a chance "Ah! forz è lui" and "Sempere libera" give to a good vocalist. Of this chance Mdlle. Sessi made the most; and the result was a double recall. She was equally meritorious in the last act, the pathos infused into the dying woman's songs being not only forcible, but of a refined order. Briefly, Mdlle. Sessi took another and a higher position by her performance in Verdi's opera. The Alfredo was Signor Naudin, who did his best with a thankless part. There were occasions when the French tenor exhibited no little power; but, as a rule, he failed to get beyond the conventional Alfredo, whose characteristics need no description here. Signor Graziani was Germont, which part he filled well, if there be anything in prosiness. Anyhow, Germont must appear as a bore; the Germont of Signor Graziani was something more than a bore, even though his "Di Provenza il mar" had to be repeated. Signor Capponi, as Il Dottore, was acceptable, after his wont, and the subordinate parts suffered nothing at the hands to which they were intrusted. The appearance of Signor Mario, announced for Tuesday, was postponed on account of illness; and "Il Flauto" was substituted for "Un Ballo." On Thursday "La Traviata" appeared a second time in the bills; and to-night (Saturday) a performance of "Medea" takes place.

The event at Drury Lane on Thursday week was the first appearance these five years of Mdlle. Reboux, as Marguerite in "Faust." The lady comes to us from the Grand Opéra of Paris, after leaving us as a singer unknown to fame. So great a rise in her fortunes was explained by what she did on the night of her début at Drury Lane. Mdlle. Reboux is an actress of no ordinary merit, besides being a singer of more than common pretensions; the two things are rarely united; and, therefore, it is a long time since so dramatic a Marguerite, able to sing so well, has appeared on the lyric stage. Mdlle. Reboux is very forcible in all the situations of her part, and clearly aims to present them to her audience in the strongest colours. She did this with consistency throughout her performance, and there were not wanting evidences of rare thought in the conception and working out of the character which gave to it added interest. We shall watch with curiosity the future efforts of an artist who is one in something more than name. Signor Gardoni's Faust was, as always, an impersonation of striking merit. This real artist's voice may not be what it once was, but his pure method and his unflinching intelligence are the same as ever. There is hardly one of the great-voiced tenors of our day who could not learn something from the accomplished Signor Gardoni. A better Mephistopheles than Signor Gassier would be hard to find. There is about the character so much *bonhomie*, combined with diabolic cunning, that the influence of the role surprises no more than the success, such as it is, of his plans. We need not put on record that Signor Gassier sang the music in capital style. Madame Trebelli, as Siebel, obtained encores for both her airs. The chorus and band were excellent; and the *mise-en-scène* reflected great credit upon Mr. Stirling, the stage manager. Last Saturday Mozart's "Il Flauto Magico" was presented, with Signor Gardoni (Tamino), Mr. Santley (Papageno), Mr. Lyall (Monostatos), and Signor Foli (Sarastro). These are all familiar impersonations, and need not detain us longer than is necessary to say that each was worthy of itself and of Mozart's divine music. Mdlle. Sinico, as Pamina, was evidently ill at ease, and sang with timidity. This will, undoubtedly, wear off, and leave the excellent Papageno of her Majesty's Theatre a not less excellent Pamina of Drury Lane. Madame Monbelli took Mdlle. Sinico's old part, and sang its music in the most delightful manner. The band and chorus were again all that could be desired; and the audience, we trust, went away thoroughly satisfied with their evening's entertainment. On Thursday Mozart's "Nozze di Figaro" was performed; and to-night Mozart's "L'Osca di Cairo," as well as Weber's "Abu Hassan," will be put on the Italian stage for the first time.

At the Crystal Palace last Saturday (the concert being for the benefit of Mr. Manns) Mdlle. Reboux, Madame Lancia, Mr. Vernon Rigby, Signor Mongini, and Signor Urio sang some vocal music which calls for no remark. The symphony was Beethoven's, in A (No. 7), played by a band one hundred strong. What an effect it produced can be imagined more readily than described—there has been nothing like it during the present season. Mozart's "Impresario" and Weber's "Oberon" were the overtures; the pianoforte solo being the last-named master's "Concertstück," played, in her usual style, by Madame Schumann. An arrangement by Herr Stör of Bach's violin prelude from the sixth sonata was also given; but we notice it only to condemn it in the most unequivocal terms as a liberty taken with a great composer's work.

At the third Philharmonic Concert, given in St. James's Hall, on Monday, the programme was mainly composed of well-known works, the names of which only call for mention. The symphonies were Schumann's fourth (in E flat) and Beethoven's seventh; the overtures were Mendelssohn's "Melusine" and Cherubini's "Anacreon;" and the concerto was Beethoven's in G, played by Madame Schumann. None of these works need detain us; nor is it necessary to do more than mention that the vocalists were Madame Monbelli and Dr. Gunz.

At an oratorio concert on Wednesday, in St. James's Hall, "Elijah" was performed, the chief vocalists being Madame Rudersdorf, Madame Patey, Mr. Carter (in place of Mr. Rigby, absent through illness), and Herr S'tepan. It is needless to say that so well known a work had an efficient rendering, principals, band, and chorus being alike zealous to do it honour.

Mr. Kennedy, the Scotch vocalist, commenced another series of his entertainment, entitled "Songs of Scotland," on Monday evening, at the Hanover-square Rooms. His singing is always agreeable, his anecdotes are racy, and his remarks interesting. Among the songs given by Mr. Kennedy we may particularly mention "Duncan Gray," "Auld Robin Gray," "Call'er Herrin' and "My Boy Tammy," the whole concluding with "Auld Lang Syne," in which the majority of the audience joined in chorus. Between the parts Miss Kennedy characteristically played several reels and strathspeys, and Mr. Kennedy recited Professor Wilson's

celebrated poem, "Watty and Meg." The entertainment—which is announced for this (Saturday) morning, and on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings next week—will doubtless prove attractive.

A concert, followed by a dramatic performance, was given, on Wednesday evening, in St. George's Hall, by Miss Edith Kingsley and Miss Morel Somerville. The concert, in which Miss Kingsley was efficiently aided by Mr. George Perren, Miss Blanche Cole, and other artists, was a decided success. The dramatic portion of the entertainment was fairly rendered.

OBITUARY.

LORD AUCKLAND.—The death, at the age of seventy years, of the Right Hon. and Right Rev. Lord Auckland, late Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells, happened on Monday, at his Lordship's residence, at Wells, Somersetshire. The late peer, Robert John Eden, third Lord Auckland, of West Auckland, in the county of Durham, in the Peerage of Great Britain, and also Lord Auckland, of Auckland, in the Peerage of Ireland, was born at Eden Farm, Beckenham, Kent, on July 10, 1799. He was the youngest son and last surviving child of William, first Lord Auckland, the statesman of Pitt's time, who was celebrated for his diplomatic services in America, France, Spain, and Holland. His mother was Eleanor, second daughter of Sir Gilbert Elliot, and sister of Gilbert, first Earl of Minto. He was educated at Eton, and at Magdalene College, Cambridge, where he took his M.A. degree in 1819. Having been ordained in the year 1822, we find him in the following year appointed Rector of Eym, Derbyshire, and of Hertingfordbury, near Hertford, in 1825. In 1835 he was instituted to the Vicarage of Battersea, and about the same time was made one of the Chaplains to her Majesty. In 1847 he was consecrated to the see of Sodor and Man, from which he was translated in 1854, on the death of Dr. Bagot, to the see of Bath and Wells, which he held until his resignation, in the autumn of last year. His Lordship's father dying in 1814, the title devolved upon the late peer's eldest brother, who held the Governor-Generalship of India from 1835 to 1840, and was raised to an earldom in consequence. On the death of his brother, in January, 1849, the earldom became extinct, but the English and Irish baronies passed to the prelate now deceased. Lord Auckland married, in September, 1825, Mary, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Francis Edward Hurt, of Alderwarley, Derbyshire, by whom he leaves a numerous family. He is succeeded in the family honours by his eldest son, the Hon. William George Eden, who was born in 1829, and who now becomes fourth Lord Auckland. The new peer was educated at Rugby, and has held several appointments in the diplomatic service. He married, in October, 1857, Lucy, youngest daughter of Mr. John Walbanke Childers, of Cantley, Yorkshire, by whom he has issue three daughters, and also three sons, of whom the eldest, William Morton, born in 1859, becomes heir apparent to the barony.

DANIEL MACLISE, R.A.—Mr. Daniel MacLise, the Royal Academician, died on Monday afternoon. He was born in Cork, in 1811; but he was of a Scottish family, his father having held a commission in the Elgin Fencibles. His passion for art led him, at an early period of his career, to give up a situation in a counting-house in his native city and come to London, where he studied for two years at the Royal Academy, and twice in succession took the gold medal. His first exhibited pictures were painted in his twenty-second year, and were shown at the British Institution in 1833. Two years afterwards the Royal Academy elected him an Associate; and in 1841 he was elected a Royal Academician, his age then being thirty. When, in 1866, Sir Edwin Landseer refused the presidency of the Royal Academy, it was offered to Mr. MacLise, who also declined it. We shall publish a Portrait and full memoir of Mr. MacLise in our next week's Number.

MARQUIS DE LA WOESTINE.—On Monday last General Marquis de la Woestine died in Paris, at the Hôtel des Invalides, of which institution he was the Governor. The deceased General was descended from a Flemish family, and was a godson of the late King Louis Philippe. Born in 1786, he was educated by his uncle, the Count de Cobenzel, by whom he was introduced, in 1801, to Joseph Bonaparte, upon the occasion of negotiating the Peace of Lunéville. He acquired a strong admiration for the French army; and, when his uncle quitted France in 1803, refused to accompany him, preferring to become a naturalised Frenchman. He had then attracted the notice of the French Consul, who sent him to the Ecole Militaire, and subsequently appointed him a sous-lieutenant of dragoons. He took part in the great battles of Friedland and Jena, where his gallantry procured him promotion. Later, he joined the army in Spain under Sebastiani, and was dangerously wounded at Almonacid. After three years' service in the Peninsula, he accompanied the troops withdrawn from that country for the Russian campaign, and was present during the whole of the fatal retreat. At Leipsic he distinguished himself so highly as to receive from the Emperor the cross of the Legion of Honour and the rank of Colonel. He refused to serve under the Bourbons, and when Napoleon returned from Elba he immediately rejoined him, and commanded the 3rd Regiment of Chasseurs at Waterloo. Under the Restoration he was debarred from military employment in France, and established himself in Belgium as a wine merchant. The Revolution of July, however, recalled him to his adopted country, and he was appointed by Louis Philippe Maréchal-de-Camp, in which rank he made the Belgian campaign in 1832, as commander of a brigade of light cavalry. In 1841 he was made General of Division; but in 1848 he was placed on half-pay by the Provisional Government, which was suspicious of his Orleanist prepossessions. The accession of Louis Napoleon restored him to active service, and in 1852 he was appointed commander of the National Guards in Paris, in succession to General Perrot, who in his turn had been dismissed on account of his Orleanism. A few days before the coup-d'état of December, 1852, General de la Woestine sent all the drums of the National Guard to Vincennes to be repaired, and on the celebrated Deux Décembre the drummers assembled in the Place Vendôme, but without drums, a deprivation which was not without its use at that important moment. He was subsequently created a Senator, and in 1863 he succeeded the late Marshal D'Ornano as Governor of the Invalides.

BARON HESS.—The old Austrian warrior Hess, who died on the 13th inst., at Vienna, had fought at Wagram and Leipsic, and lived to give Nestor-like advice concerning the battle of Königgratz, which if followed might have altered the story of the campaign. Since 1859 he had taken no active part in the management of the army, but he sat in the Upper House of the Reichsrath, and figured there somewhat in the same fashion that the Duke of Wellington did amongst us. He was a liberal in politics; a kindly, affable, and modest man, whose career was distinguished for prudence as well as brilliancy. In his last illness he was visited by the Emperor and the Archdukes, while an Imperial decree has been now issued that one of the most famous regiments in the Austrian service is hereafter to bear the name of the Marshal. He was laid out in state in the rooms in which he lived, and has by this time been buried with all the military honours and ceremonies of a nation specially skilled in the ordering of such pageants. Field Marshal Hess was eighty-three years of age. He fought under Radetzky in Italy, and it is said that the series of blunders which led up to the catastrophe of Solferino would have been all avoided if the strategical plans of Hess had been followed. Although he had graduated in the old schools of warfare, the Field Marshal constantly kept himself abreast of the times, and to the last preserved a vigour and clearness of intellect which enabled him to deal with the political problems of the day in a fresh and vigorous style. He never seemed to know he was old, and this, it is reported of him, was his greatest failing.

PLUMSTEAD-COMMON.

WARRICK V. PROVOST AND SCHOLARS OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE, OXFORD.

This suit, which was decided by the Master of the Rolls on Monday, was instituted by four gentlemen claiming to be freehold tenants of the manor of Plumstead, in Kent, on behalf of themselves and all other the freehold tenants of the manor, of which the defendants are the lords, to restrain the defendants from approving—that is, inclosing—the wastes of the manor, and to establish the right of the freehold tenants of the manor to common of pasturage and to cut turfs and gorse on Plumstead-common, Bostal-heath, and Shoulder-of-Mutton-green, which are the wastes of the manor, and, further, to use Shoulder-of-Mutton-green for all lawful village sports and pastimes. The case was argued before Easter by Sir Roundell Palmer, Q.C., Mr. Joshua Williams, Q.C., and Mr. W. R. Fisher for the plaintiffs; and Mr. Mellish, Q.C., Mr. Jessel, Q.C., Mr. Lindley, and Mr. Elton for the defendants.

The Master of the Rolls, in giving judgment, said that there was evidence before him to show that from an early period until 1859 there had been continuous user by the freeholders of the wastes of the manor in accordance with their claim. In 1859 a Mr. White became steward of the manor, and he set up a claim on behalf of the college to the entire waste of the manor. Some of the freeholders acquiesced in this, others resisted, and their resistance led to the institution of the suit. The chief objection that had been taken by the defendants' counsel was one of a technical nature—namely, that, whereas one or more copyholders may sue the lord on behalf of their class where their rights are involved, there can be no bill on behalf of freeholders as a class, but each must sue in defence of his own right. There were no copyholders of this manor, and the suit was brought by persons claiming to be freeholders only. The reason of the alleged distinction between freeholders and copyholders was that every copyholder has by custom the same right of common; but the rights of freeholders, being derived from the grants made to them by the lord of the manor, were, or might be, different. The copyholder, holding his land by a base tenure, might rely on custom to establish his right to common; but the freeholder, holding by socage tenure, could only claim commonable rights by virtue of his particular grant; and, in order to do this, he must show that the land granted was originally arable land, for common was never granted as appendant to any but arable land. The conclusion was that every freeholder, in order to establish his right of common, must make out that the original grant in his own case was of arable land, and he could have no help in so doing from the proceedings of another freeholder. His Lordship, however, thought that there was no such fundamental difference between the situations of the freeholder and the copyholder as to be a bar to relief in this case. Both estates must be taken to have sprung originally from grants by the lord, and the true reason why the copyholder was able to rely on custom was that the freehold of his tenement was in the lord, whereas the tenant in whom the freehold was must prescribe against the lord. Under these circumstances, the objection that there can be no bill on behalf of freeholders as a class ought not, his Lordship thought, to have too much weight. Assuming the existence of a right of common to have been proved in two or three cases by the production of the particular grants, his Lordship thought that where similar rights in the case of others were asserted to exist a suit might be maintained on behalf of all generally. There was such a thing as a bill of peace to prevent multiplicity of suits. In "Mayor of York v. Pilkington" (1 Atkyns, 282) it was held that a bill would lie by one who claimed a sole right of fishery against trespassers who asserted distinct rights; and if this were so, might not such a bill be as well brought by tenants against a lord as by a lord against his tenants? His Lordship was, therefore, of opinion that in a case like this, where there was a general right and privity between the parties, a bill would lie by some on behalf of all, provided at least one of the plaintiffs made out his title. In this case his Lordship thought that three of the plaintiffs had made out their titles as freeholders of the manor. The fact of enjoyment by the freeholders of commonable rights had also been established. From 1688 to 1859 there was abundant evidence in the Court Rolls respecting the freeholders' practice of depasturing their cattle and cutting turfs and furze on the waste lands of the manor; nor had this practice been interrupted until Mr. White's time. In such a case the Court would presume a grant and throw on the lord the burden of proving the contrary. This the lord had failed to do, and the steward's interruption of the practice within the last six years had not been acquiesced in by the tenants. There would, therefore, be a decree for restraining the defendants from interfering with the exercise by the freeholders of the right of common and of cutting turf and gorse. With regard to Shoulder-of-Mutton-green, his Lordship said there was evidence of a custom for the inhabitants of Plumstead to use it for purposes of recreation. Such a custom might be valid, but, as, though it had been claimed on behalf of the freeholders, it had not been made out as regarded them, the decree would extend only to the right of common, of pasture, and of cutting turf and gorse.

LIFE-BOAT SERVICE.—A gallant and prompt rescue of two poor fellows was performed on the 22nd inst. by the Blackpool life-boat, belonging to the National Life-boat Institution, for, in the absence of the life-boat, they would in all probability have been sacrificed, says Dr. Pickup. During a stiff gale and a heavy sea the smack Sprightly, of Preston, was seen on the Crusader bank in a critical position, with fearful seas breaking over her. An immense number of people from Blackpool and the neighbourhood had turned out, and none of them had heard the piercing cries for help of the two men. The scene became somewhat exciting as the life-boat approached the wreck through the breakers which were breaking over her. After undergoing some further rough work, the life-boat succeeded in taking off the two men and landing them in safety, amidst the acclamations of a large number of people.

THE GREEK AND ANGLICAN CHURCH.—The Archbishop of Syria visited, last Saturday, the Patriarch of Constantinople, to whom he conveyed a greeting from Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, Mr. Gladstone, and the English Prelates, as well as the good wishes of some of the Anglican clergy for their union with the Eastern Church. The Patriarch is reported to have manifested great satisfaction, and to have said it was only necessary that the two Churches should know each other to bring about their union; he added that he was convinced that the journey of the Archbishop would contribute to this desirable result.

THE BISHOP OF MANCHESTER ON THE CATECHISM.—The Bishop of Manchester, at an education meeting the other night, said:—"I do not know how far I shall carry the feelings of the clergy or laity with me on this platform, but I want no reserve or not to be misunderstood by my clergy, or you, the laity. What I say about the Church catechism is, that I should not be at all sorry if we got rid of that time-honoured, though somewhat obsolete institution of godfathers and godmothers; and therefore I think the first part of the Church catechism might be got rid of with very little difficulty, and I do not desire that young children in elementary schools—for you know they are young minds, and are only fit for milk and not for strong meats—should be perplexed by the appendix to the Church catechism which touches on the mysterious doctrine of the sacraments."

A TIGER STORY.—A Nagpore paper relates an incident which occurred recently in the course of a hunting expedition to Massowa. "The hunting party (it says), consisting of Mr. Morris, acting Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, and some of his friends, arrived, mounted on elephants, at the lair of the man-eater; and on the first appearance of a stripe, our officiating Chief Commissioner, with his customary skill, put in a well-directed bullet from his bone-crusher. This, however, instead of cowering, enraged the brute, and made him turn to show fight. The whole of the elephants ran like rabbits; but Mr. Morris's one, being the best trained and pluckiest of the lot, was, after a little encouragement, induced to face the foe. The tiger came on so rapidly that, before Mr. Morris was ready to fire again, the brute had time to make a tremendous spring on to the elephant. On this Mr. Morris drew a heavy hunting-knife, and almost severed the tiger's head from his body before the animal let go his hold and fell to the ground. Another bullet gave him his quietus as he lay. Mr. Morris's coolness and presence of mind at such a momentous crisis are all the more striking and praiseworthy when we take into consideration that his movements were much hampered by a native servant who clung to him in a fit of the most abject terror."

POLICE.

CABS AND FEVER PATIENTS.—Mrs. Ruth Heckley, of No. 18, Gilbert-street, Grosvenor-square, was, on Monday, summoned at Marlborough-street before Mr. Tyrwhitt by Dr. C. J. B. Aldis, medical officer of health for St. George's, Hanover-square, for unlawfully aiding, abetting, and procuring one Thomas Routledge (her nephew), a person suffering from a dangerous infectious disorder, to enter a public conveyance without previously notifying to the driver thereof that the said Thomas Routledge was so suffering. Dr. Aldis said he proposed to proceed under the 38th section of the Sanitary Act, "For that being a person in charge of an infected person she exposed him in a public conveyance without notifying to the driver that the person was so infected." Mr. W. R. Cheyne, the resident medical officer of the London Fever Hospital, Liverpool-road, Islington, deposed that, on the 14th inst., the defendant brought a boy about sixteen years of age to the hospital in a four-wheel cab. The boy, whose name was Thomas Routledge, was suffering from scarlet fever, and was still in the hospital. He afterwards saw the driver of the cab the boy was brought in, and sent the number of the cab to Dr. Aldis. Joseph Caley, driver of cab 5492, said that, on the 14th inst., he took up, at No. 18, Gilbert-street, a boy and the defendant and another woman. The defendant told him to go to the Agricultural Hall, Islington, and on his getting there she told him to go a little further; and, by her direction, he took his cab into the grounds of the hospital. He waited to take the party back, but only took the females. The doctor at the hospital (Mr. Cheyne) asked him whether he knew what he had brought there, and he said he did not. The doctor said that he had brought a case of fever there, and asked him what he was going to get for the job. He said he did not know, and the doctor then told him that he must have known all about it, as the persons had ordered him there; but he told the doctor that, when he was engaged, he was told to drive to the Agricultural Hall. Mr. Tyrwhitt asked the witness whether nothing was said to him about the boy being ill. The cabman said not a word was said about it, and that the boy did not appear to him to be ill. He afterwards took the females back, and the defendant told him that she was sorry for what she had done, and that she did not know it was wrong. Had he known the boy was infected he would not have taken him. He was told by the doctor not to work his cab for three days, and did not do so. Mr. Edward Lewis, for the defendant, submitted that in point of law the defendant was not liable in the present case. There were two classes of persons against whom the section of the statute under which the summons was taken out (the Sanitary Act, 1866) was intended to apply—viz., against those who, suffering from any infectious disease, wantonly exposed themselves so as to endanger the public, and those having "the charge" of persons so infected who committed a similar act. Under the latter denomination, Mr. Lewis argued, were included only those acting as doctor or nurse—those, in fact, who from the very nature of their duties must of necessity, know the character of the disease and the danger of exposing an infected person in a public conveyance. Mr. Lewis, in conclusion, hoped that even if the magistrate was of opinion that the defendant might be convicted, only a nominal penalty would be inflicted, inasmuch as proceedings for this offence had been very rare, and very few persons in the defendant's position were even aware that the statute made it an offence to convey persons suffering from contagious diseases in a public conveyance. Mr. Tyrwhitt said he considered the defendant must be taken to have been in charge of the infected person, as she had deposited him at the hospital, and, what was more, it was shown that she had deceived the cabman. The real defence was that she did not know that she was doing wrong; but he suspected that she did, or she would have told the cabman to have gone at once to the hospital. The importance of such a case to the public could not be exaggerated, and the only thing in the defendant's favour was the great difficulty that existed in sending sick persons from one place to another, although he was informed that some parishes provided conveyances for the purpose, and it would be well that that fact should be known. There was no wish to be vindictive, but he considered the matter had most properly been brought forward. The offence was very rare, and it was often so because it was not found out till too late. The penalty was £5; but in the present instance he should only impose one of 40s., and in future the whole penalty would be imposed. Dr. Aldis said that St. George's parish had provided for any persons requiring them two conveyances—one for persons infected with smallpox, the other for those infected with fever.

A COOL FORGER.—At the Mansion House, on Wednesday, Elizabeth Smith, a well-dressed woman, thirty-two years of age, was charged before the Lord Mayor with forging and uttering a cheque for £120, with intent to defraud Messrs. Smith, Payne, and Co., bankers, Lombard-street. Mr. Samuel Mullens, solicitor to the London Bankers' Protection Association, conducted the prosecution. On Saturday last the prisoner, who then gave the name of Mary Simpson, called at the bank of Messrs. Twining and Co., in the Strand, and presented to Mr. Samuel Harvey Twining, one of the firm, a letter of introduction, purporting to be written by Mr. Charles Brooke, a surgeon in Fitzroy-square, with whom he was well acquainted. She requested to be allowed to open an account at the bank, and she handed to Mr. Twining, as the first deposit, a cheque on Messrs. Smith, Payne, and Co., for £120, purporting to be drawn in her favour by Mr. William Longman, one of the firm of publishers in Paternoster-row. At



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Mr. Twining's request, she indorsed it in the name of Mary Simpson; and she wrote the same name in the signature-book kept in the bank. A cheque-book containing thirty-six cheques was given to her, and, wishing to have some money at once, she drew a cheque for £50, which was cashed for her then and there, in five notes for £5 each and £25 in gold. On that she left the bank. It was afterwards found that both the letter of Mr. Brooke and the cheque of Mr. Longman were forgeries, although the latter had been cashed on its way through the clearing-house. On Tuesday afternoon Mr. Donald King, a clerk to Messrs. Twining, who had paid the cheque for the prisoner on the previous Saturday, saw her in the Strand, and stopped her. He requested her to accompany him to the bank, and said if she refused he would give her into custody on the spot. After some hesitation, she returned with him to Messrs. Twining's, where, seeing the same member of the firm, she asked to be forgiven, and to be allowed to return the remainder of the money which she had succeeded in obtaining. This was refused, and she was given into the custody of Edward Hancock, a City detective officer. She had previously torn up some papers which she said she did not wish anyone to read; but the fragments were preserved. On the way to the police station she cried, and said she would not have committed the offence if she had not been starving. She was searched at the station, and upon her three of the £5 notes and £3 4s. 7d. were found, together with a watch and chain, some lockets, an opera-glass, and a gentleman's ring and eyeglass. She gave an address in Bayswater, where the cheque-book of Messrs. Twining was found by Detective-Sergeant Haydon. Eight cheques had then been taken from it. On the way to the Justice-room that morning she stated that she neither wrote the letter nor the cheque, but that she had been induced to present them by another person. She added that she knew she had done wrong in giving and signing a fictitious name at the bank. Mr. William Longman said he keeps an account at Messrs. Smith, Payne, and Co.'s bank. The cheque for £120, purporting to be drawn by him, was not in his handwriting, nor was it written with his knowledge or by his authority. He knew the prisoner's father many years ago, but he was now dead. Her father and she herself used to visit witness's house. Their name was Rovidino. He did not know whether the prisoner was married. He had received several letters from her, commencing in November last, and in the first of these she signed herself "Elizabeth Smith, late Rovidino." She described herself as being in want, and witness on two occasions sent to the address she had given a cheque for £5. He knew nothing more of her, and had not seen her since she was a child. On the application of Mr. Mullens, the Lord Mayor remanded the prisoner for a week.

THE BULL-FIGHTING AT THE AGRICULTURAL HALL.—Mr. Sidney, secretary to the Agricultural Hall Company, and Mr. Holland, proprietor of the Canterbury Music Hall, on Tuesday, appeared at the Clerkenwell Police Court in answer to summonses issued by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The case arose out of the prosecution of the Spanish bull-fighters, and the charge against Mr. Sidney was that he had permitted cruelty, while Mr. Holland was summoned for having procured its commission. Professors Spooner and Pritchard, of the Royal Veterinary College, were called for the prosecution. The magistrate held that, although cruelty had undoubtedly been practiced, the defendants were without that guilty knowledge which was necessary to support the complaint. The society was satisfied with this expression of opinion, and the summonses were withdrawn.

STRANGE MURDER.—Last Saturday an inquest was held at Wellington, Salop, upon the body of Jane Fitzgerald, who had been shot on the previous Wednesday. In depositions taken before a resident magistrate, deceased said she got her living by going out with a basket and selling small articles. She went out early on Wednesday, and on returning, between one and two o'clock, met the prisoner near Lawley church, two miles from Wellington. He asked her for money, and she said, "Man, you must be mad; do you think I have got money?" She saw him take a pistol out of his pocket, which he raised, and fired at her. He took out another pistol, but, hearing a vehicle coming up, he ran away. She felt that she was shot, and shouted "Murder!" Information was given to the police; and the sergeant of the district, from the description given by the woman, went in search of a carpenter named Thomas William Pitt, aged sixty, and found him sitting in his own house at Broseley-wood. The officer at once seized him. He struggled violently, and was in the act of drawing a pistol from his pocket, when the officer caught hold of him and eventually handcuffed him. The pistol was loaded, capped, and at half-cock. On searching him the officer found in Pitt's pockets another pistol loaded and capped, which appeared to have been recently discharged; also a bottle containing powder and a box filled with bullets and percussion-caps. He was taken before a magistrate on Friday, and was committed to take his trial upon a charge of attempt to murder; but on the same afternoon the poor woman died, and a Coroner's jury

was summoned. At the inquest a boy stated that he saw the prisoner draw a pistol from his pocket and deliberately shoot the old woman. A woman living on the spot, having been told by the boy what had occurred, went and assisted the wounded woman, who was then bleeding very much; she was afterwards put into a vehicle and sent to her home at Wellington. Dr. Snook said he had examined the wound, and found that the ball had penetrated six or seven inches, and her clothes were saturated with blood. After her death he made a post-mortem examination, and was a considerable time before he could discover where the ball had lodged; at last he found it in one of the intestines. This was the substance of the whole evidence. The Coroner briefly summed up to the jury, who almost immediately returned a verdict of "Wilful murder."

PROSECUTION OF A JOCKEY FOR CRUELTY.—At the County Magistrates' Court, Liverpool, Mr. George Holman, the well-known jockey, was summoned, at the instance of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, charged with using undue severity towards The Doctor, at the last Liverpool Grand National Steeplechase. Mr. Harris, of the Midland Circuit, appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Fallon, of the Oxford Circuit, for the defence. This prosecution was founded on a statement which appeared in the *Daily Telegraph* to the effect that "The Doctor's sides were fairly ripped up with the spurs." Mr. Henry Feist, of the *Sporting Life* and the *Daily Telegraph*, who writes under the name of "Hotspur," was called, and, in cross-examination, said his description of the horse's sides being ripped up was a mere figurative and sporting phrase. His letter was written hastily, in pencil, and in great excitement, after a cursory glance at the horses. He did not think that Holman touched his horse till he was over the last hurdle. In conclusion, he said he was an unwilling witness. Henry Jordan gave evidence showing that the horse was severely punished. Masters, a police superintendent, said some of the other horses were as severely punished as The Doctor. Mr. Fallon having been heard in defence, the magistrates, after a consultation, dismissed the case, with £20 costs.

CONVICTION OF THE CHILD-STEALER.—Mary Connor, forty-four years of age, a domestic servant, was, on Tuesday, indicted at the Middlesex Sessions for having stolen the infant child of a Mr. Chinnery, a tradesman in the Hornsey-road. She was found guilty, and sentenced to five years' penal servitude. A similar punishment was awarded to William Leaver, whose name has been prominently before the public in connection with charges of decoying young women from the country for base purposes. His confederate, Amy Law, was recommended to mercy by the jury, and sentenced to four months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

BOY GAMBLERS.—John Ferguson was convicted at Willenhall, Staffordshire, on Monday afternoon, and fined £5 and costs, or two months' imprisonment, for keeping a private gaming-hell for apprentice boys. The house was sometimes crowded with locksmiths' apprentices, who paid defendant a fee upon every game of dice and cards. Boys seven years old were amongst the gamblers. Wine, whisky, and ale were drunk, and heavy sums were won and lost. Defendant was stakeholder. The evidence showed that he counselled the boys, if they had no money of their own to stake, to rob their masters of two or three sovereigns.

AN ENGLISH PICKPOCKET ABROAD.—The Correctional Tribunal of Tours has just tried two Englishmen, named Golt and Hill, for picking pockets in that town during the sittings of the High Court of Justice. They appear to have made acquaintance at Marseilles, and to have travelled in company to Tours. Golt admitted that he had tried the pockets of several ladies in the church, and had abstracted a portemonnaie which was seized on him, but the other prisoner denied all knowledge of the theft, and declared that he had believed his companion to be a respectable man. A letter found on the latter showed that he had shortly before received a sum of 12,000*fr.* from his friends in England, but he had lost a part of it in gaming at Monaco. The Court sentenced Golt to six months' imprisonment, but acquitted Hill.

OUTRAGES IN IRELAND.—A desperate and almost successful attempt has been made to murder Mr. Radcliffe, a magistrate of the county of Meath. He was riding home alone from Kells, when he was waylaid about two miles from the town by a couple of men, who called upon him to stop. One of them enforced the command by seizing the horse's reins, and the other immediately discharged a firearm at Mr. Radcliffe's head. Fortunately the aim was rather high, and six slugs passed through the magistrate's hat. Mr. Radcliffe at once urged his horse into sudden motion, and got away from the would-be murderers, finding safety at the nearest police barracks. He laid an information of the occurrence, and two men were subsequently arrested on suspicion. They have been fully identified by Mr. Radcliffe. It is supposed that the motive must have been revenge in consequence of Mr. Radcliffe, as chairman of the Kells Petty Sessions, having sentenced to a term of imprisonment a relative of the parties. A disgraceful outrage was perpetrated at Abington, in the county of Limerick, on Sunday night. A number of men entered through a

window into a Protestant church which is being built there, and demolished everything in the way of ornament in the building. A magnificently-carved pulpit, which was erected at considerable cost, has been almost entirely demolished, and the greater portion of the stonework, particularly that comprising the chancel, has been more or less mutilated. The police are actively engaged in tracing out the offenders.—James Doherty, a farmer, living near Ennistymon, Clare, was found murdered, on Monday morning, close to his residence. His skull was beaten in, and his face mutilated. No clue to the perpetrators, of course, has been found.

SHOCKING RAILWAY DISASTERS.—A little girl, about ten years of age, while travelling from Brighton to London, on Tuesday afternoon, was looking out of the window of the carriage and eating an orange, when the door flew open and she fell out and was killed. The guard of the train, named John Wright, who has been in the company's service nearly twenty-five years, and through whose neglect in not locking the door the accident is said to have occurred, seems to have been much affected by the melancholy event, and was engaged to leave Brighton by the 8.30 train on Wednesday morning. When the time for starting arrived he was missing, and was found dead, with his throat cut, in a closet at the Brighton station.

CONVENT INSPECTION.—A meeting of the Roman Catholic electors of Birmingham was held, on Wednesday night, to protest against Mr. Newdegate's motion for the inspection of convents. The Rev. Canon Ivers presided. Resolutions were passed expressing the indignation of the meeting at the wanton insult to their faith involved in Mr. Newdegate's motion, and urging the borough members, Messrs. Dickson and Munzt, to oppose the offensive motion. At Liverpool a large meeting was held, on Wednesday night, in the Concert-Hall, under the auspices of the local Working Men's Association, in favour of the motion, and a resolution was passed to the effect that it is the duty of the Government to institute an inquiry into conventual institutions, as well in the interests of the inmates as of the community.

DISASTROUS FIRE.—The village of Broadclyst, about four miles from Exeter, was almost wholly destroyed by fire on Wednesday. Fifty-nine houses were burnt down, and only eighteen remain in the village. No provisions were to be obtained in the place. The property destroyed belonged to Sir Thomas Acland, whose son, Mr. Acland, M.P., and other gentlemen, were on the spot and used every effort to supply food and shelter to the sufferers. It is supposed that the fire was caused by sparks from the chimney of an inn which was on fire.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22.

BANKRUPTS.—E. A. BARLOW, South Molton-street, Oxford-street, coach-maker—E. CHABAUD, Chapside, war-housman—C. WIGLEY, High Holborn, leather-hose manufacturer—T. W. MINGAY, King's-cross, oilman—C. DEYER, Liverpool, licensed victualler—J. BROCKBANK, Carlisle, timber merchant—J. DOBBS and J. DOBBS, jun., Bream, leaders—H. HALL, Leeds, flour-dealer—E. H. JOSEPH, Wells, innkeeper—W. LENTHALL, Taunton—J. MARTYN, Newton Abbot, innkeeper—J. MOORE, J. SUTCLIFFE, J. LUND, and F. PRIESTLEY, Barnoldswick, worsted stuff manufacturers—H. MOLYNEUX, Hyde, druggist—H. BIGGALL, Sutterton, blacksmith—L. SAKEY, Abington, spinner—T. W. SHACKLE, Upper Norwood, ironmonger—J. and J. J. VINTEN, Tonbridge, builders—W. M. WEBSTER, Oxford, bookseller—W. MALAM, jun., St. Helen's, boiler-maker.

TUESDAY, APRIL 26.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.—H. YOUNG, Ramsgate, shoemaker—S. CHATTERTON, Brighton, builder.
BANKRUPTS.—A. ARNOLD, Camberwell, draper—W. T. JACKSON, Southwark, druggist—T. STUNT, Kensington, jeweller—W. ATTWELL, Kettering, watchmaker—J. LORD, Rochdale, manager in a cotton-mill—W. COULSON, Cambridge, coprolite merchant—W. C. ELLIOTT, Plymouth, builder—B. LEE, Manchester, corn and flour factor—J. MILLS, Dolegely, miller—L. E. FAIGER, Bradford, soap manufacturer—H. J. SIMON, Colchester, commission agent—E. SYKES, Huddersfield, cotton-warp manufacturer—J. H. WALLWORK, Manchester, cotton-dealer.
SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—D. DICK, Muirhead, farmer L. LYNASS, Glasgow, general merchant—W. S. LUMGAIR, Leith, provision merchant—J. SCOTT, Belshill, joiner—A. S. MILLAR, Leith, wine and spirit merchant.

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Chinese Silks, from 1 1 0
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